

Robstown residents indicted on multiple counts of voter fraud

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(Photo: Rachel Denny Clow/Caller-Times)

Three Robstown residents are facing multiple counts of voter fraud related to the 2016 Nueces County election cycle, Attorney General Ken Paxton announced Wednesday.

The indictments were handed down recently by a San Patricio County grand jury. The charges include ballot theft, mail-in ballot fraud, vote harvesting, unlawfully divulging a vote and illegal voting, Paxton said in a press release.

"Nothing is more vital to our democracy than the integrity of our voting process, and my office will do everything within its abilities to solidify trust in every election in the state of Texas," Paxton said in the release.

"We're grateful to Nueces County Clerk Kara Sands for uncovering these election fraud cases. I'm hopeful

these prosecutions will send a message that deters voter fraud in the future."

Cynthia Kay Gonzalez was indicted on four counts of election fraud stemming from the May 2016 Nueces County Democratic primary runoff election. Her charges include illegal voting, a second-degree felony punishable by up to 20 years in prison.

The grand jury also indicted Rosita Torres Flores with two counts of voter fraud. Prosecutors said Flores obtained an elderly victim's mail-in ballot and used it to vote without the voter's direction during the 2016 general election.

Robert Gonzalez, who was on the 2016 Robstown Municipal Utility Board runoff election in 2016, was indicted on three counts of unlawfully divulging a vote, a third-degree felony. He was charged with observing the secret ballot of another voter in a polling place and unlawfully divulging the person's vote, Paxton said.

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