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**HARRIS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY**  
DEVON ANDERSON

**INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Devon Anderson  
**FROM:** Belinda Hill  
**SUBJECT:** Disciplinary Committee; Investigator Ruben Shawn Carrizal  
**DATE:** November 22, 2013  
**CC:**

Approved

DA 12-2-13

On November 20, 2013, the Disciplinary Committee was convened to consider possible misconduct involving Investigator Ruben Shawn Carrizal in relation to his recent handling of a search warrant that is related to a pending murder prosecution. Investigator Carrizal has been employed with the Office since October 7, 2013. He elected to appear before the committee to provide information and explain his actions.

An investigation revealed that on October 24, 2013, Investigator Carrizal filed a search warrant and affidavit with the Harris County District Clerk's Office. The search warrant affidavit had originally been signed by a District Court judge on October 19, 2012; however, the search warrant itself was not signed by the judge at that time. The warrant, which related to a homicide investigation Investigator Carrizal conducted while employed with the Harris County Sheriff's Office, was executed on October 22, 2012.

On October 24, 2013, Investigator Carrizal first attempted to file the unsigned warrant with the Clerk's Office; however, the Clerk's Office would not file an unsigned warrant. Investigator Carrizal then took the document back to the same District Court judge and secured the judge's signature on the warrant. It is alleged that he initially backdated the warrant by writing the date of October 19, 2012, above the judge's signature and that he shared this version of the document with the HCSO Homicide Division and the Assistant District Attorney handling the prosecution of the homicide case. At some point prior to actually filing the search warrant and affidavit with the Clerk's Office, he changed the date on the search warrant to October 24, 2013. Investigator Carrizal's recollection of the circumstances surrounding the search warrant differs from others that have been interviewed in connection with this matter.

After careful consideration of all of the available information, including that provided by Investigator Carrizal, the Committee has significant concerns with respect to Investigator Carrizal's competence, his judgment, and his overall suitability for employment as a District Attorney's Investigator. In view of these concerns, the Committee recommends that his employment with the Harris County District Attorney's Office be terminated.

EXHIBIT

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