

[Material that is irrelevant to Los Tocayos Carlos and contains sensitive personal information about one or more persons has been removed.]

Bruce Whitman and JSL interview of **Eddie Garza**, former CCPD detective; on 8/25/04
Notes, not summary.

Jim Lawrence: he was a bad lawyer. Biggest goddamned crook. Paid \$2000/case. Meets with client a few minutes before the go to court. \$2000/case x 5 cases a week, and it's a lot of money. Even murder cases, big cases, he would just get paid but not work. Go up on front of court, and get the client to plead, so he can get his money.

Talks about the *Andrade* case, which he thinks was another Lawrence case: in some lethal injection case, maybe Andrade, Lawrence put on a show when he questioned me. [Digression on all the evidence in Richard Andrade case (one we looked at briefly) -- - victim was May Guevara; so much evidence; ink from V's pen on D's shirt; beer can print; hand print on juke box; almost had a print on the body --- 9 points only, though.

Jim. L. always wanted to be lead lawyer, and Hector probably wouldn't fight him about it; would let him do it. Hector was shy, would let someone push him aside.

Jim Lawrence would be the last damned attorney I would hire. He never goes to see his client; only 15 minutes before court to tell him the thing to do is to plead.

Jimmy wouldn't get up and cross examine or object except every one in awhile to play the part.

Hector dePena: took over after his father as county judge; he wa just unexpectedly defeated by Lisa Gonzales. Earlier, when Hector had been in county attorneys office, he had worked legislature to loosen marijuana laws because of a case where Johnny Borega was given 10 years for a felony cigarette. Hector as attorney: not good, but fair. Same category as Jim Lawrence; hung around courthouse and got appointments. Just before he became a judge (1984, year after CDL case), he was going through a divorce. But he was pretty sharp as a DA.

His list of best "1st chair" appointments: Doug Tinker, Jon Kelly, Ken Botary, Bill May (he doesn't like May). Mickey Kopack, who died in the courtroom. But "not Hector dePena"; he wasn't on the list.

All appointments are determined by the judge; one reason Hector dePena was defeated is that it came out that he was always appointing 1 lawyer.

Carlos Hernandez was a bad, bad guy. Ever since he was a juvenile. Most of the police officers would have known who CH was (in 1983). So would prosecutors. I don't know why it wasn't followed up (the claim that CH did it). Re: whether CH was an informant: CH would sell out anyone just to get his ass out. Someone in narcotics was working him. Talk to Eubie Alvarado, head of narcotics. He's done everything over there: vice,

narcotics, homicide, now back to narcotics.

CH was bad ass. Terror of neighborhood. Everyone was afraid of him. He have people beat the crap out of people, or he would do it. They looked to him as a leader. Wasn't a gang, like today. Group that hung around with him. Thinks that Carlos DeLuna hung around with him. He is sure that Carlos DeLuna and Hernandez wewre hooked up He saw them together several times. They hung out at a bar ouver by South Bluffs Park -- - the building right next to Sunnyland Furniture, no longer a bar. He knows that CDL's mom lived on Rockford, which is far away from the projects near the police station where Carlos DeLuna and Carlos Hernandez hung out. [JSL NOTE: COULD IDA SOSA BE THE LINK?]

About Carlos DeLuna: he was a dummy, retard, like he was crazy. He didn't give impression that he was violent; pleasant or police except when doped up. Seemed normal, but then when doped up seemed like a retard. *Follower, not leader. I never knew him to be violent. If Carlos H said take rap for me, CDL would*

If anyone was violent or mean, it was Carlos Hernandez. He would stare right through you; cold; no feelings. CDL had feelings. I imagine he cried several times when they interrogated him.

He thinks that both **DeLuna** and **Hernandez** hung out together at Marguerite and Mary near Staples: near a bar and near South Bluff Park.

Casino Club was between Mary and Marguerite on Port. Now there is a used car lot.

Debbie Charles used to live over in the projects. **Cindy Maxwell** lived in projects on North Alameda. Maxine Washington --- dead.

We ask about a victim under a bridge. He mentions a skeleton under bridge over by airport. Also someone found under Harbor Bridge.

Olivia Escobedo (JSL note: she was lead homicide investigator on both DeLuna and Saucedo case before that): she didn't do nothing. **[Material removed]** She used to do rape cases, because she was a female. Later Banner fired her; she quit and is now with the AGs office in Austin.

Olivia Escobedo: college education; started as clerk in central records; took test for police; went to academy; then to patrol; then juvenile; then Banner took over and she was brought into detectives.

Tells story of man named Bass killed in bar; Escobedo investigators; worked it by herself. EG believes that she let them cover up for real killer.

[Material removed]

Lt. Conley (recall Paul's story that the reason they arrested Jesse Garza so quickly is that it was Conley's first case and he wanted a quick arrest): he is EG's friend.

Joel Infante: fired, **[material removed]**, drunkard. Calling him on to this scene --- *this guy was an idiot. The guy who did the ID in this case wasn't worth a damn.*

At the CDL crime scene, they should have gotten the whole I.D. crew on it: Charles Parker, Marsha Parker, Allan Stratis. They should've never turned loose of the scene until they had those people come in. Should have analyzed the blood pattern. Should've called in the lab guy.

***DeLuna case:** I think it was a screwed up damned case. Required a more seasoned investigator. Just because he's arrested under the car, they thought it was open and shut. But where's the evidence? The I.D. guy was the wrong person. He was drunk all of the time, even at scenes. Poor excuses for an investigator and I.D. tech.*

EG was reared at 24th and Agnes. About himself: "I was trained at DPS. I was one of the best street cops. I knew cars, names, who hung with who. I knew everyone on the street. I worked 111th and 115th (precincts). I learned more on the street.

Abbie Cisneros is related to the police officer Bruce has been talking to, Robert DeLaGarza.

Mentions location of gay bar on Staples st.

Theory: CH - prison at 18 years old and was punked out.

Diana Gomez (who ratted out CH in 1985) was shop lifter and dooper.

Bill May: lazy. Never followed through.

Re: **Jermarr Arnold** case: **[Material removed]** He fell out with Greenberg and tried to May tried to blame me that I lost the evidence. I said, "you know exactly where the evidence is. It's up there on the 4th floor in the property room. Botary and Bill May have to go find it." The bullet in the vial. Eric Brown ordered May and Botary to go upstairs. This happened during trial. (JSL note: This doesn't make much sense, given what I understand about Arnold....) More on Arnold case: Eubie Alvarado was the lead detective. Bill May was first at scene. Then Banner arrived. Grant Jones. Too many people at the crime scene and they contaminated it. Paul R and I went in days later and

found the bullet in the ceiling. Ted Coleman, black man in “The Cut” (area of CC) had some rings, and said he bought them from man at boarding house named Troy Alexander. He gave us the stuff (jewelry). I thought Elliot Bornstein had taken some of the jewelry and burned it. Bornstein had it in for Greenberg. Gay guy in Calif. says cell mate confessed to crime in Corpus, which led to

EG retired in 1988.

Finding Ortiz: When EG was in PD, he remembers that every month, the TDC would put out a book of all people released from prison and where went in from and where came out to --- paroled to where.

Criminal justice system is “not kosher” (interesting phrase he uses, perhaps for my benefit). Story about corruption in 13th Court of Appeals, pay off. Money floating around. He is bitter about an election he lost, which he attributes to fraud and money; says he is going to Houston to file suit about it.

[Material removed]

Garza said he was told he won (race for sheriff) by 850 votes, then was told later that he lost.

[Material removed]

County is crooked; if you have money, you can get away with a pay off and having a case thrown out.

They don't want me over there (at the courthouse).
