

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

MEMO TO THE FILE

DELUNA

**THIS IS NOT AN INTERVIEW SUMMARY BUT ONLY A TYPESCRIPT OF
RBW'S NOTES**

**Interview of
7/25/2005**

Joel G. Infante
[Material removed]

Joel Infante was inspired to become a Corpus Christi Police officer after the death of his older brother Samuel G. Infante, a Dallas County Deputy Sheriff who was killed in the line of duty in the early 70's. Samuel was a dedicated police officer who believed in helping and serving the community. Samuel believed in and respected the law and his position in the judicial system. Joel admired his brother and shared Samuel's reasons for choosing a law enforcement career. Joel joined the CCPD in 1971 and left the department after 19 years of service in 1990. During those 19 year Joel was assigned to the Patrol Division from 1971-1978; ID, (Identification Division) from 1978-1984 or 85; and the Patrol Division again until leaving the department in 1990.

In February of 1983 Joel was assigned to the I.D. Division. In 1983 officers assigned to the I.D. Division were responsible for fingerprinting individuals arrested and brought into the police station. ID officers also responded to crime scenes for the sole purpose of dusting for fingerprints and taking any photos the investigating officer requested. The established procedure within the department, or SOP, in February of 1983 was the first responding patrol officer to a scene was in charge and responsible for the care collection and preservation of any and all evidence at the scene unless the Detective Division was called at which time the responding detective assumed the responsibility for the crime scene and the care collection and preservation of all evidence at the scene. ID

officers remained on the scene, photographing and dusting for prints as directed by the investigation officer and were released from those duties at the scene by the investigating officer.

Joel's memory of the Wanda Lopez murder is somewhat vague but he does remember a woman was stabbed in an apparent robbery of the DS, SPID near Ayers. Joel thinks his unit number at the time was 503? ID units were 500's. Joel had no memory of the disposition of the case or if the woman survived the stabbing. Joel thought the victim had been removed from the scene when he arrived and was surprised when I told him I thought he was at the scene before the victim was taken to the hospital. I asked Joel just what he remembers about the scene? Joel remembers very little other than Olivia Escobedo was the detective assigned to the case. He does not remember how long he was at the scene. While thinking about the case Joel commented: "I hoped the perp left fingerprints on the counter or the door. That's all we had to work with. Any prints would have been taken from the door. The prints would have been used for identification or elimination." When questioned in more depth about the case Joel said he simply couldn't remember anything else including who was at the scene, witnesses, police officers, if anyone was arrested etc. Joel said he never saw Detective Escobedo's report on the case nor was he asked to testify. Joel does not remember doing major case fingerprinting on nor knowing the name Carlos Hernandez.

As Joel was describing his duties as an ID officer he told of a time he was at a murder scene as the ID officer and the detective on the scene was Eddie Garza. Det. Garza ordered Joel to remove, by cutting, a blood stained portion of a carpet at the crime scene. Joel refused to do it. He told Det. Garza it was beyond his assignment as an ID officer. Det. Garza became and reported Joel's refusal to the Chief. According to Joel he was not reprimanded for his refusal.

Joel was very willing to talk to me and said to call or stop by if we had any other questions or anything else he could help us with. Joel is not presently employed but suggested the best time to contact him at home are between 11:00 a.m. and 1-2 p.m.

End of memo

R. Bruce Whitman
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