CAUSE NO. 2018-06752

FREE AND SOVEREIGN STATE OF	§	IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
VERACRUZ DE IGNACIO DE LA LLAVE	§	
Plaintiff,	§	
	§	127TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
VS.	§	
	§	HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS
	§	
JAIME REVERTE, JMA REVERTE	§	
PROPERTIES LLC, AZULGRANA	§	
MANAGEMENT, LLC, GIMAL REVERTE	§	
PROPERTIES, LLC, REVERTE FAMILY	§	
LIVING TRUST and JAVIER DUARTE	§	
DE OCHOA	§	
Defendants.	§	<u>JURY TRIAL DEMANDED</u>

PLAINTIFF'S FIRST AMENDED PETITION

TO THIS HONORABLE COURT:

Plaintiff, the Free and Sovereign State of Veracruz De Ignacio De La Llave ("Veracruz"), files this Original Petition against Defendants Jaime Reverte, Javier Duarte, JMA Reverte Properties LLC, Azulgrana Management LLC, Gimal Reverte Properties, LLC, Reverte Family Living Trust, Jose Ruiz, Monica B. Canal, Julio Antimo, Javier Duarte, Denmark Properties LLC, Lequatri Properties, LLC, JR&GA Management Company, LLC, St Antimo, LLC, and Antimo Family Living Trust and respectfully shows this Honorable Court the following:

Summary of this Case

Javier Duarte De Ochoa was the governor of the Mexican state of Veracruz from 2010 until 2016. His time as governor was marked by multiple controversies and corruption. The corruption in Gov. Duarte's administration reached dizzying heights. Mr. Duarte orchestrated a scheme in which hundreds of millions of dollars earmarked for social programs were diverted to an elaborate network of phantom companies – among other misdeeds. Indeed, he is alleged to have absconded with nearly \$3 billion of his state's money. This stolen money was used to make

investments and purchase luxury homes and cars all over the United States. As the allegations against him grew, Mr. Duarte eventually fled Veracruz, and then Mexico. Mr. Duarte was later indicted, and then arrested in Guatemala as a fugitive. He was ultimately extradited to Mexico, where he is currently jailed.

Mr. Duarte's conspiracy to steal money was a global enterprise involving hundreds of banks, co-conspirators, businesses, and real estate. Acting as a single conspiracy and enterprise, Mr. Duarte and his confederates were able to steal money for years undetected.

The money stolen by Duarte rightfully belong to the people of the State of Veracruz. The State thus files this and other actions in an effort to recoup those funds stolen by Duarte and those acting in concert with him. Veracruz also seeks to recover assets purchased with such stolen funds.

Each of the Defendants named conspired with Javier Duarte to steal government funds from the State of Veracruz. Defendant Jame Reverte has very close ties to Javier Duarte. Defendant Reverte manages and controls the corporate defendants listed in this case. The properties listed *in rem* are just a few of the hundreds purchased with stolen funds all across the United States and the world.

I. <u>Discovery Control Plan</u>

Plaintiff intends to conduct discovery under Level 2.

II. Parties

Plaintiff Veracruz is a foreign state entity of Mexico.

Defendant JMA Reverte Properties, LLC, is a domestic limited liability company residing in Texas. This company can be served via personal service via its registered agent,

Jaime Reverte, at 90 W. Horizon Ridge, The Woodlands, Texas 77381. Defendant has responded there is no need for citation at this time.

Defendant Azulgrana Management, LLC, is a domestic limited liability company residing in Texas. This company can be served via personal service via its registered agent, Jaime Reverte, at 90 W. Horizon Ridge, The Woodlands, Texas 77381. Defendant has responded there is no need for citation at this time.

Defendant Gimal Reverte Properties, LLC, is a domestic limited liability company residing in Texas. This company can be served via personal service via its registered agent, Jaime Reverte, at 90 W. Horizon Ridge, The Woodlands, Texas 77381. Defendant has responded there is no need for citation at this time.

Defendant Reverte Living Trust is a domestic trust residing in Texas. This company can be served via personal service via its registered agent, Jaime Reverte, at 90 W. Horizon Ridge, The Woodlands, Texas 77381. Defendant has responded there is no need for citation at this time.

Defendant Javier Duarte is a foreign individual that will be served via the Hague Convention. He is currently jailed in Veracruz.

Defendant Jaime Reverte is an individual residing in Texas. He may be served with personal service at 90 W. Horizon Ridge, The Woodlands, Texas 77381, or wherever he may be found. Defendant has responded there is no need for citation at this time.

Defendant Denmark Properties, LLC, is a domestic limited liability company residing in Texas. This company can be served via personal service via its registered agent, Julio Antimo, at 98 Frosted Pond Place, The Woodlands, Texas 77381.

Defendant Lequatri Properties, LLC, is a domestic limited liability company residing in Texas. This company can be served via personal service via its registered agent, Julio Antimo, at 98 Frosted Pond Place, The Woodlands, Texas 77381.

Defendant Antimo Living Trust is a domestic trust residing in Texas. This company can be served via personal service via its registered agent, Julio Antimo, at 98 Frosted Pond Place, The Woodlands, Texas 77381.

Defendant Julio Antimo is an individual residing in Texas. He may be served with personal service at 98 Frosted Pond Place, The Woodlands, Texas 7381, or wherever he may be found.

Defendant JR&GA Management Company, LLC is a domestic limited liablity company residing in Texas. This company can be served via personal service via its registered agent, Jaime Reverte, at 90 W Horizon Ridge Place, The Woodlands, Texas 77381.

Defendant St. Antimo, LLC is a domestic limited liablity company residing in Texas. This company can be served via personal service via its registered agent, Jaime Reverte, at 90 W Horizon Ridge Place, The Woodlands, Texas 77381.

Defendant Jose Ruiz is an individual residing in Tomball, Harris County, Texas. He is the owner of 38 SHALLOWFORD PL, TOMBALL TX 77375. He can be served at 38 SHALLOWFORD PL, TOMBALL TX 77375 via personal service.

Defendant Monica B. Canal is an individual residing in Tomball, Harris County, Texas. She is the owner of 38 SHALLOWFORD PL, TOMBALL TX 77375. She can be served at 38 SHALLOWFORD PL, TOMBALL TX 77375 via personal service.

Defendant Terraventura Developments, LLC is a local limited liability company that owns property in Harris County. It can be served via its registered agent, Alejandro Ortiz

Carpinteyro, via personal service at 25219 Kuykendahl Road, #240, Tomball, TX 77375 or wherever he may be found.

In Rem Parties

Plaintiff makes claims against the following properties in rem.

90 West Horizon Reidge, Place. is a property in Spring, Texas; its record owner is Defendant Reverte Living Trust. The funds used to purchase this property were stolen from Veracruz.

123 S. Village Knoll Circle is a property in Spring, Texas its record owner is Defendant JMA Reverte Properties. The funds used to purchase this property were stolen from Veracruz.

7 West Archwyck Circle is a property in The Woodlands, Texas; its record owner is Defendant JMA Reverte Properties. The funds used to purchase this property were stolen from Veracruz.

7 South Burberry Park Circle is a property in The Woodlands, Texas; its record owner is Defendant JMA Reverte Properties. The funds used to purchase this property were stolen from Veracruz.

98 North Pathfinders Circle is a property in Spring, Texas; its record owner is Defendant Azulgrana Management. The funds used to purchase this property were stolen from Veracruz.

S927500 – Tomball North, Lot 15 TR 3, Acres 0.5 is a property in Tomball, Texas; its record owner is Defendant Gimal Reverte Properties, LLC. The funds used to purchase this property were stolen from Veracruz.

S927500 – Tomball North, Lot 16 TR 4, Acres 0.54 is a property in Tomball, Texas; its record owner is Defendant Gimal Reverte Properties, LLC. The funds used to purchase this property were stolen from Veracruz.

S927500 – Tomball North, Lot 15 TR 4, Acres 0.5 is a property in Tomball, Texas; its record owner is Defendant Gimal Reverte Properties, LLC. The funds used to purchase this property were stolen from Veracruz.

72 North Apple Springs Cir. is a property in Spring, Texas; its record owner is Defendant Denmark Properties. The funds used to purchase this property were stolen from Veracruz.

87 S. Abram Circle is a property in Spring, Texas; its record owner is Defendant Denmark Properties. The funds used to purchase this property were stolen from Veracruz.

14 Red Adler Place is a property in The Woodlands, Texas its record owner is Defendant Denmark Properties. The funds used to purchase this property were stolen from Veracruz.

115 Ledgestone Pl. is a property in Spring, Texas record owner is Defendant Lequatri Properties, LLC. The funds used to purchase this property were stolen from Veracruz.

98 Frosted Pond Place is a property in The Woodlands, Texas; its record owner is Antimo Family Living Trust. The funds used to purchase this property were stolen from Veracruz.

38 Shallowford Place, Tomball Texas 77375; its record owner is Jose Ruiz and Monica B. Canal. The funds used to purchase this property were stolen from Veracruz.

3305 Plantation Grove Blvd, Mission, Texas 78572 is a property in Mission, Texas; its record owner is Lequatri Properties. The funds used to purchase this property were stolen from Veracruz.

828 Rio Gande Drive, Mission, Texas 78572 is a property in Mission Texas; its record owner is Azulgrana Management. The funds used to purchase this property were stolen from Veracruz.

18 Lamps Glow Pl., Spring, Texas 77382 is a property in Spring Texas; its record owner is Lequatri Properties. The funds used to purchase this property were stolen from Veracruz.

25219 Kuykendahl Road, #G150 is a property in Tomball, Texas; its record owner is Terraventura Development. The funds used to purchase this property were stolen from Veracruz.

25219 Kuykendahl Road, #G140 is a property in Tomball, Texas; its record owner is Terraventura Development. The funds used to purchase this property were stolen from Veracruz.

25219 Kuykendahl Road, #240 is a property in Tomball, Texas; its record owner is Terraventura Development. The funds used to purchase this property were stolen from Veracruz.

25219 Kuykendahl Road, #250 is a property in Tomball, Texas; its record owner is Terraventura Development. The funds used to purchase this property were stolen from Veracruz.

25219 Kuykendahl Road, #260 is a property in Tomball, Texas; its record owner is Terraventura Development. The funds used to purchase this property were stolen from Veracruz.

25219 Kuykendahl Road, #270 is a property in Tomball, Texas; its record owner is Terraventura Development. The funds used to purchase this property were stolen from Veracruz.

8976 Chatsworth Drive, Houston, Texas 77024 is a property in Houston, Texas; its record owner is Juan Carlos Ruiz. The funds used to purchase this property were stolen from Veracruz.

25219 Kuykendahl Road, #280 is a property in Tomball, Texas; its record owner is Terraventura Development. The funds used to purchase this property were stolen from Veracruz.

25219 Kuykendahl Road, #290 is a property in Tomball, Texas; its record owner is Terraventura Development. The funds used to purchase this property were stolen from Veracruz.

III. **Venue and Jurisdiction**

Plaintiff seeks damages in excess of \$75,000.00, exclusive of interest and costs; however, federal courts lack subject matter over this action, as there is no federal question and there is incomplete diversity of citizenship due to the presence of a defendant who is a resident and citizen of Texas. Removal would thus be improper. No party is asserting any claims arising under the Constitution, treaties, or laws of the United States. Venue is proper in this County as at least one Defendant maintains a principal office here and most of the properties involved are here.

Causes of Action

<u>Conversion – All Defendants</u>

Plaintiff incorporates the preceding paragraphs of this Petition as if set forth fully below.

Plaintiff owned, possessed, and had the right to the funds that were stolen by Javier Duarte and his network to invest into the above referenced assets. These funds were the property of State of Veracruz. Defendants are currently wrongfully exercising control over this property.

Plaintiff has suffered injury because of these actions.

Theft Liability Act – All Defendants

Plaintiff incorporates the preceding paragraphs of this Petition as if set forth fully below.

Defendant Duarte unlawfully appropriated property with the intent to deprive the owner of this property. In this case, the property belonged to the State of Veracruz. Currently, this property is owned or controlled by Defendants.

Constructive Trust – All Defendants

Plaintiff incorporates the preceding paragraphs of this Petition as if set forth fully below. Plaintiff seeks a constructive trust over Mr. Duarte and his associates' interest in the subject properties. Mr. Duarte and his associates conspired together and looted government coffers and engaged in other graft that stole money from the State of Veracruz. Mr. Duarte and his associates took those funds and invested into the above referenced assets, among other things. Mr. Duarte had a fiduciary relationship with the State of Veracruz. More importantly, Mr. Duarte and his associates committed both actual and constructive fraud in obtaining these funds. These funds were then used to invest in properties in Texas.

<u>Civil Conspiracy – All Defendants</u>

Plaintiffs would show that Duarte, together with the other Defendants, conspired with Duarte and his associates to steal and embezzle, and to commit fraud on Plaintiff. The purpose of the conspiracy was move as much money as possible from the State of Veracruz to the United States for the benefit of Mr. Duarte and his family. Duarte and these Defendants had a meeting of the minds on this objective and, as shown in detail above, together, made one or more unlawful and overtacts towards this objective. As a result, Plaintiff suffered damages. Plaintiff also seeks punitive damages.

<u>Joint and Several Liability – All Defendants</u>

Duarte and the other defendants are joint and severally liable for all acts of Duarte and his associates, the conspirators as referenced above. Duarte and the other defendants planned and

assisted in this conspiracy, and, as such, they are jointly and severally liable for all acts done by any member of the conspiracy in furtherance of such.

Texas Penal Code 31.03(e)(7) – All Defendants

The previous paragraphs are incorporated herein. Defendants unlawfully appropriated property with intent to deprive the owner, the State of Veracruz, of its property. Defendants did not have the effective consent of the State of Veracruz. Additionally, the property at issue is stolen and the various actors appropriated the property knowing it was stolen by another.

V. Damages

As a direct and proximate result of the foregoing events, Veracruz suffered damages in the form of stolen funds, all for which Plaintiff seeks recovery herein.

VI. Exemplary Damages

Plaintiff seeks to recover exemplary damages against all Defendants based on their criminal conduct and resulting injuries and damages made the basis of this suit. Any caps or limits on punitive damages should not be applied because Defendants' conduct and violations of the Penal Code, including 31.03, disqualifies them from the benefit of any caps.

VII. <u>Demand for Jury</u>

Plaintiff demands a jury trial and has tendered the appropriate fee.

VIII. Requests for Disclosure

Pursuant to Tex. R. Civ. P. 194, Plaintiff requests that each Defendant disclose within fifty (50) days of service of this Request for Disclosure, the information and/or material described in Rule 194.2.

IX. <u>Prayer</u>

For these reasons, Plaintiff asks that Defendants be cited to appear and answer, and that they have judgment against Defendants for the following:

- a. Actual damages within the jurisdictional limits of this Court, but no less than \$25,000,000:
- b. Exemplary damages;
- c. Court costs;
- d. Pre and post judgment interest; and
- e. All other relief to which the Plaintiff is justly entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

THE BUZBEE LAW FIRM

By: <u>/s/ Anthony G.Buzbee</u>

Anthony G. Buzbee State Bar No. 24001820

Christopher J. Leavitt

State Bar No. 24053318

tbuzbee@txattorneys.com

JP Morgan Chase Tower

600 Travis, Suite 6850

Houston, Texas 77002

Telephone: (713) 223-5393

Facsimile: (713) 223-5909

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of this document has been duly served on all known counsel of record and pro se parties in accordance with the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure on June 4, 2018.

Via E-Filing

James H. Stilwell Martin, Earl & Stilwell, LLP 1400 Woodloch Forrest Drive, Suite 590 The Woodlands, TX 77380

Attorney for Defendants' Jaime Reverte, JMA Reverte Properties, LLC, Azulgrana Management, LLC, Gimal Reverte Properties, LLC and Reverte Family Living Trust

/s/ Christopher L. Leavitt Christopher L. Leavitt