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March 16, 2023

*****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

Attorney Matthew Doss, on behalf of his clients, Mayor Bobby Gutierrez and La Pistola Cattle Company, LLC, makes the following statement:

Bryan, Texas

“On December 27, 2022, a Louisiana man named Rene Borrel (“Borrel”) made an emergency landing of his 1977 Piper airplane on property owned by the Bryan Business Council (“BBC”) and leased by Rafter D Genetics, LLC (“Rafter D”). As Mr. Borrel was departing from an airport in Austin, Texas, Mr. Borrel reported that he observed problems with the air speed of his plane. Mr. Borrel refused to declare an emergency when asked by air traffic control on at least two occasions. Declaring an emergency would have permitted Mr. Borrel to land on the nearest runway available to him. Instead, Mr. Borrel continued towards College Station, Texas and ultimately made his emergency landing on the BBC’s property. Mr. Borrel has since alleged that he crashed his plane due to engine failure.

At the time of Mr. Borrel’s landing, Mr. Gutierrez’s cattle business, La Pistola Cattle Company (“La Pistola”), in coordination with its paid consultant Rafter D, was gathering cattle on the BBC property for artificial insemination and to start an embryo collection process with the ultimate goal of selling the embryos to its customers. After the plane crash, La Pistola’s cowboys immediately stopped their operation to render aid to Mr. Borrel and worked with the FAA as well as other emergency personnel to move the cattle. As a result of the extended interruption caused by the plane crash, the embryo collection process could not be completed which resulted in substantial financial loss to Mr. Gutierrez and his business La Pistola Cattle Company.

Following the plane crash, Mr. Gutierrez, although not his responsibility to do so, made several attempts to coordinate the retrieval of the plane by Mr. Borrel with Mr. Borrel’s plane retrieval contractor and Mr. Borrel’s insurance company. On each of those occasions, the retrieval contractor cancelled the retrieval through no fault of Mr. Gutierrez, La Pistola, Rafter D or the BBC. As has been reported, neither Mr. Borrel nor his representatives or insurance company contacted Rafter D or the BBC about the plane crash or Mr. Borrel’s desire to recover his plane from the BBC property. At no time did Mr. Gutierrez or La Pistola Cattle Company “ransom” or “hold hostage” Mr. Borrel’s plane in exchange for payment of money, which was sensationalized by uninformed internet bloggers. Mr. Gutierrez never prevented Mr. Borrel or his representatives from retrieving his plane from the BBC property. Any reporting to the contrary is false and is actionable defamation. As has been reported, the BBC recently advised Mr. Borrel to remove the plane from BBC property by March 16, 2023, however, Mr. Borrel’s representatives have advised that his retrieval contractor will not be able to retrieve Mr. Borrel’s plane until the week of March 20.th

The artificial insemination and embryo transfer business being conducted by La Pistola Cattle Company and Rafter D is an expensive, time-sensitive process. Unfortunately, Mr. Gutierrez and his

business La Pistola Cattle Company have been financially harmed (now in excess of \$269,700.00) as a result of Mr. Borrel's negligent conduct. Following the plane crash, Mr. Gutierrez advised Mr. Borrel and his insurance company of his desire to recover his business' considerable financial losses. It is Mr. Gutierrez's desire to resolve the dispute with Mr. Borrel and his insurance company in an amicable, fair manner as quickly as possible.

It is critical for the public to understand that Mr. Gutierrez's involvement in this unfortunate incident with Mr. Borrel was as a private citizen and rancher, not in his capacity as Mayor of Bryan, Texas. Mr. Gutierrez's focus remains on working hard to serve the people of Bryan, Texas in addressing the community's needs and promoting the City's growth and development."