

# Exhibit 244

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in the case of:

**People of the Republic of Texas  
and the  
Sovereign Nation of the Republic of Texas**

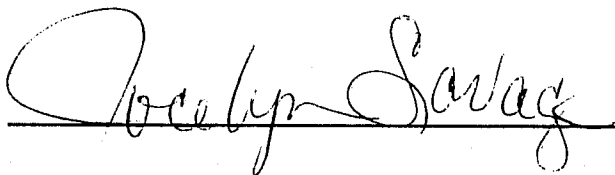
**v.**

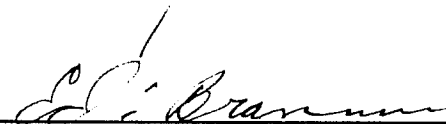
**UNITED NATIONS  
(and all it's Political Subdivisions)  
and  
UNITED STATES  
(and all it's Political Subdivisions)**


**Under Pains and Penalties of perjury and the laws of the Almighty, and being sworn under a vow and oath, I attest that the attached pages are true and correct reprints of the:**

**News flash: Texas declared a state, Associated Press - May 2, 1998 from a Republic of Texas website.**

**This attestation is made on August 18, 1998.**

**Attest:** 

  
**Witness to source and above signature**

  
**Witness to above signatures**

## News flash: Texas declared a state.

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BY MICHELLE MITTELSTADT

Associated Press 5/2/98

WASHINGTON -- Cartographers won't have to redraw their maps after all: Texas was, is and shall remain part of the United States.

So says a federal judge in Washington, who this week rejected the contention of Republic of Texas "chief ambassador" Richard McLaren that Texas is a captive nation illegally annexed by the United States in 1845.

McLaren drew national attention to himself and his separatist cause last year when he engaged in a week-long standoff with police after his ragtag band of followers launched a raid on some Davis Mountain Resort neighbors, taking two hostages.

He is serving a 99-year prison sentence stemming from the kidnapping and standoff and faces up to 755 years more during sentencing next month on federal fraud charges related to his group's issuance of \$3.4 million in bogus checks.

Just before dropping his weapons last May, McLaren signed a cease-fire agreement with Texas Ranger Capt. Barry Caver stipulating that he could press his case for independence in Washington federal court.

McLaren and his wife, Evelyn, filed their suit in September, naming scores of defendants from President Clinton and the entire 32-member Texas congressional delegation to the United Nations and the government of Mexico.

The McLarens demanded that U.S. District Judge Paul Friedman dissolve the current government of the "alleged state of Texas" and replace it with Republic of Texas leadership, declare Texas' members of Congress "impostors," and order more than \$66 million in damages.

Two gold seals, emblazoned with the words "republic of Texas," were affixed to the legal filing, one of many documents the McLarens sent to Friedman. The judge apparently, felt he was the recipient to too many such filings. Last year, he ordered to plaintiffs to stop communicating with him unless they were asked to do so.

The case sent Friedman (or his law clerks) to the history books.

In his eight-page ruling Thursday, Friedman wrote: "The history of how Texas became a state is admittedly tortuous.

"Indeed, Texas' statehood tale is plagued with political stalling, confusion and delay from 1836, the year in which the Republic of Texas won its independence from Mexico, to 1845, the year in which Texas finally became one of the United States of America. The tale is even more complicated by the fact that Texas attempted to secede from the United States before the Civil War.

"On December 29, 1845, however, Texas did in fact become the 28th state," the judge concluded, citing an 1868 Supreme Court decision which found that Texas entered into an "indissoluble relation" when it was admitted into the Union.

While the McLarens contend that that Supreme Court ruling was flawed, Friedman noted that all federal courts, including his own, are bound by the high court's dictates.

"The Republic of Texas no longer exists," he concluded.

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