



State of Texas v. Van Raub Elementary School Teacher

On the morning of **November 5, 2025**, at approximately **7:45 AM**, a **Van Raub Elementary School Teacher**, age 21, was driving a silver car down Dietz Elkhorn Road in Fair Oaks Ranch, Texas. This stretch of road runs directly in front of **Van Raub Elementary School**, which has a clearly marked school zone with posted speed limits of **20 mph during school zone hours (7:30–9:00 AM and 2:30–4:00 PM on school days)**.

The **Van Raub Elementary School Teacher** was on the way to work and traveling at **35 mph** when he was stopped by an Officer from the Fair Oaks Ranch Police Department. The FOR Officer was monitoring traffic in front of the school using a radar gun. When the officer pulled the **Van Raub Elementary School Teacher** over, informed the driver that they were driving **15 miles per hour over the posted speed limit** in a **designated school zone**, during active hours with children present.

The **Van Raub Elementary School Teacher** stated that they did not see the flashing yellow school zone lights because **a delivery truck had been parked partially in front of the sign**. Claimed that they were **not aware that it was still school zone time, was ruining late to work** and that **they had slowed down slightly when he saw children near the crossing guard**, but didn't think they were going over the speed limit.

The officer issued **Van Raub Elementary School Teacher** a citation for **Speeding in a School Zone**. No accident occurred, and no one was injured. However, the incident took place during a time when children were walking to school, and crossing guards were assisting students at the crosswalk.

The **Van Raub Elementary School Teacher** requested a **jury trial**, stating that the obscured sign and lack of direct warning made it **unfair** to be cited. The **Van Raub Elementary School Teacher** believes the circumstances should be considered in evaluating whether they are **guilty under Texas Transportation Code Section 545.357**, which governs speed limits in school zones.

Issue:

Is the Van Raub Elementary School Teacher guilty of violating Section 545.357 of the Texas Transportation Code (Speeding in a School Zone)?

