Judge supports religious display

School is ordered to restore 'Charlie Brown Christmas door decoration

By Mike Ward

AUSTIN — A Travis dist-

ict judge on Thursday or-

dered a “Charlie Brown Christmas” decoration at a Kyle school removed after a parental order it was
taken down over civil rights
calls and could be offensive.

The order by Judge Jack Jones could be
difficult to enforce.

Following an hourlong hearing, it was
decided the door displaying the
“Peanuts” character Linus and his explanations of why Christmas mat-
terials should be put back up with an added label, “Mr. SHOW's holiday
message,” according to offi-
cials who were present at the hearing.

Nurse’s aide Dleta Shimidt came up

with the display on her door

at Patterson Middle School.

Parking at Threadgill South, the
township's office.

The White House
ties Putin to hacking

By Bradley Klapper and Josh Lederman

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration
campaigned against Russian Presi-
dent Vladimir Putin personally au-
crediting him and a Moscow-based

Democratic officials’ email theft and
told the presidential election

and said it was “fair” that

such actions helped Don-

ald Trump.

The White House also

responded: Trump him-

self, saying he must have

known Russian inter-

ference.

No proof was offered for any of the accusa-
tions, despite the United States’ uncer-
	ain relationship with

the nation that has been in power for

more than a decade.

This is one of the features of
the new Lynn-won Marriott Marquis in downtown

Houston. The hotel is getting ready for its first big

event as host during Super Bowl LI. Story on A2.

Ground zero for Super Bowl events

By Andrew Kragie and Lisa Olson

When Houston police officers
took and killed an armed man standing

in a street intersection this summer, offi-
cers’ body cameras taped the incident

—but the recordings didn’t start until after the man had been

shot.

The video released to the public didn’t convince
skeptics that police were telling the truth about the

man allegedly pointing his gun at the officers. And

critics questioned whether the department's homicide

division could investigate the officer-related
dying death objectively.

After just two weeks

on the job, Art Acvedo, Houston’s new police

chief, is calling for two ma-

ter changes in department

policy to improve trans-

parency. He wants body

cameras to start recording automatically when police

officers exit their vehicles, and he plans to create a

special unit this spring that will investigate off-

icer-related shootings and alluded wrongdoing by

police.

In the relationship between a police depart-

ment and a community

starts with legitimacy,”

Acvedo told the Hous-

ton Chronicle this week.

But critics wonder how

the way we investigate officer-involved

Acrevedo continues on A13

TECHNICAL DIFFICULTY

Please try refreshing the page.
Marriott ready for Super Bowl

By Diane Cowen

Workers were busy checking things off their punch lists, decorators were putting the finishing touches on rooms and tables just so and restaurant staff were training new cooks and wait staff at the soon-to-open Marriott Marquis in downtown Houston this week.

Sandwiched between Minute Maid Park and Toyota Center and across from the George R. Brown Convention Center, the $2.2 billion Marriott, independently built and owned by RID Development Corp. for about $370 million, is getting ready for its first big game as the host hotel during Super Bowl LI events.

Jay Marsella, director of sales and marketing, said the hotel will have a soft opening on Dec. 26, roughly a month after the hotel has already booked, but the place will really get hopping in early January when the Super Bowl staff arrives to prepare for the Feb. 5 game.

During past years, host hotels often were on full alert, but this season, host hotels were not working on such a tight schedule. The Super Bowl staff arrives to prepare for the Feb. 5—just in time for Super Bowl staff to arrive to prepare for the Feb. 5 game.

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