

By: Oliveira, Lucio III

H.B. No. 3417

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the jurisdiction of criminal law hearing officers in
Cameron County.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 54.1356(a), Government Code, is amended
to read as follows:

(a) A criminal law hearing officer appointed under this
subchapter has limited concurrent jurisdiction over criminal cases
filed in the district courts, statutory county courts, and justice
courts of the county. The jurisdiction of the criminal law hearing
officer is limited to:

(1) determining probable cause for further detention
of any person detained on a criminal complaint, information, or
indictment filed in the district courts, statutory county courts,
or justice courts of the county;

(2) committing the defendant to jail, discharging the
defendant from custody, or admitting the defendant to bail, as the
law and facts of the case require;

(3) issuing search warrants and arrest warrants as
provided by law for magistrates; ~~and~~

(4) as to criminal cases filed in justice courts,
disposing of cases as provided by law, other than by trial, and
collecting fines and enforcing judgments and orders of the justice
courts in criminal cases;

1 (5) hearing, considering, and ruling on writs of
2 habeas corpus filed under Article 17.151, Code of Criminal
3 Procedure; and

4 (6) on motion of the district attorney:

5 (A) dismissing a criminal case when the arresting
6 agency has not timely filed the offense report with the district
7 attorney; and

8 (B) reducing the amount of bond on prisoners held
9 at the county jail whose cases have not been filed in a district
10 court or a statutory county court.

11 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.