

on Houston #1

Late Backup



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October 27, 2017

Don Garber  
Commissioner  
Major League Soccer  
420 5th Avenue, 7<sup>th</sup> floor  
New York, NY 10018

Dear Commissioner Garber,

We are asking for clarification on the status of San Antonio's bid for a Major League Soccer expansion franchise. Anthony Precourt's October 16th announcement of his intention to explore a relocation of the Columbus Crew to Austin, which you enthusiastically supported, came as a complete surprise to us. Even beyond your verbal support, Major League Soccer registered trademarks in Austin this year. We are just now learning of reports that Mr. Precourt and the University of Texas have reached an agreement on the use of University of Texas facilities in 2019.

On November 2, 2015, Major League Soccer President Mark Abbott met with Bexar County Manager David Smith and me. We discussed our proposed plan to purchase Toyota Field and made it clear that we would only purchase Toyota Field if there was a clear path toward a Major League Soccer expansion franchise in San Antonio. Mr. Abbott encouraged us to move forward and submit a bid. We were also told that Major League Soccer would not establish franchises in both Austin and San Antonio.

Over the past two years, we have pursued a franchise by purchasing Toyota Field and submitting an application. It has been widely reported that Mr. Precourt, whom you appointed to the Major League Soccer expansion selection committee, obtained a legal right to relocate the Columbus Crew to Austin when he purchased the franchise in 2013. If these reports are accurate, this

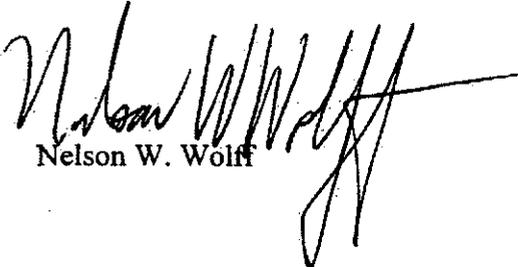
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presents a clear conflict of interest. Had Bexar County officials been aware of such a right, we would not have invested in Toyota Field.

I am still committed to bringing Major League Soccer to San Antonio. Bexar County has invested a great deal of money, time, and energy in this pursuit. As these troubling facts have become public, I have a duty to the taxpayers of Bexar County to question this process and its fairness.

I would appreciate a prompt response to these concerns. In the meantime, I have asked the Bexar County Criminal District Attorney to thoroughly investigate the matter and report his findings to the Bexar County Commissioners Court.

Sincerely,

  
Nelson W. Wolff