

On April 4, 2025, while overseeing the counting of the end-of-day funds for the concession stand, Maria Elena inquired about who would be signing the bottom of the paperwork. I informed her that, as is customary when dealing with money, the treasurer would typically be responsible for signing. At that point, Maria Elena questioned why the treasurer, who was not involved in the counting process today, should be the one to sign. I then explained that, for today, Elva could sign in place of David, as he was unavailable. Maria Elena appeared dissatisfied with this decision, expressing frustration that I would have Elva sign instead of her, stating, "I am the president." I acknowledged her role as president and explained that my decision was based on consistency, as I had observed that David and Elva had been responsible for counting the money during my time here, and I wanted to maintain that continuity.

Maria Elena then attempted to pass over the paperwork she was completing, stating that if she could not sign, she would not proceed with the task. Elva and I reassured her that she could continue filling out the forms, as we were all present and working together. Once the counting was done it appeared that Maria Elena sought to question my familiarity with the role, as she asked, in a condescending tone, how long I had been employed here. I responded courteously, informing her that I had been an employee of the city for seven years. Following my response, her tone shifted, and she attempted to deflect by remarking, "Oh, you look so young." To change the subject I informed both Elva and Maria Elena that this process could be revisited and adjusted in a meeting, where we could ensure everyone was aligned on the procedures.

Later, as I was entering the daily sales for the week, Maria Elena approached me proceeding to walk behind the desk and behind me. She expressed that she did not appreciate being excluded from signing and reiterated her dissatisfaction. I again explained that my decision was based on maintaining consistency with the individuals who had previously been involved in counting the money. Not fully satisfied with this explanation, Maria Elena then alluded to rumors circulating about her, saying, "I don't know what you have heard about me, but there are a lot of rumors going around." I reassured her that I had heard nothing and that any rumors had no bearing on my decision. I further suggested that if she was hearing such things or had any concerns, it would be best to address them directly with either Luvia or myself to prevent any misunderstandings.

Maria Elena also mentioned that I should speak with David to see why he was not involved in the counting process. I responded that I would speak with both David and her, but that I preferred to do so with the presence of my supervisor to ensure clarity and avoid any potential miscommunications. She then returned to discussing the rumors surrounding her, to at which point I reminded her that Luvia and I had planned to meet with the advisory council to discuss how we could work together more effectively as a team moving forward.

Mindy Neria

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mindy'.