



SMITH  
STRUCTURAL  
ENGINEERS

June 24, 2024

Mr. Stan Klein Architect and Preservation Consultant  
405 West Live Oak Road  
Fredericksburg, Texas 78624

Re: The Blanco County Courthouse  
Johnson City, Texas

Dear Mr. Klein:

This letter is submitted to communicate my concern with the condition of the existing framing in the roof of the courthouse below the cupola. There are structural issues with the existing framing that had previously been documented in the observation report prepared by DLD Engineering dated November 23, 2021. The primary concern is with the buckled top chords of the "trusses" noted in item 6 (a), (b),(c) and (d) of the report and discussed further in the first paragraph of the conclusion section of the report.

Temporary shoring and structural repair documents were prepared by the SLS Partnership dated April 15, 2022 to address the structural issues noted in the DLD Engineering report.

On Thursday June 13, 2024 Whit Smith and I met with you at the courthouse and conducted an observation of the framing. The structural issues noted in the DLD Engineering report were confirmed during our observation. At that time no action had been taken to address the structural issues.

Smith Structural Engineers designed and prepared a construction document for temporary shoring (separate from the temporary shoring designed and documented by the SLS Partnership noted above). This shoring will be required prior to any roof structure repair and/or modification work taking place. I strongly recommend that this temporary shoring be installed as soon as possible to ensure there are no life safety issues with continued use of the offices and the courtroom on the second floor of the courthouse. Until this shoring is in place I recommend the courtroom not be used.

This information is submitted for your use. Please feel free to call me with any questions and or comments you might have regarding this information.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeffrey L. Smith".

Jeffrey L. Smith, P.E.  
Texas PE #65663