

To the People of our Dallas County Communities:

We, the undersigned Chiefs of Police, write as leaders of your local communities to clarify our position with respect to law enforcement in Dallas County. Dallas County District Attorney John Creuzot has advised the people of Dallas County that he would no longer prosecute certain offenses.

The primary purpose of government is to safeguard property and protect lives. As the Police Chiefs of your communities, we have a legal duty to enforce the laws as written and adopted by our State lawmakers. We do not substitute our opinions in place of those you have elected to create laws, however, your local police departments always strive to be procedurally just and deploy proper discretion when enforcing the law by evaluating each circumstance on its own unique merits. As public servants, we do not profit or gain from arresting a person, and, in fact, we share the common goals of our communities to not over-criminalize, reduce arrests, and rehabilitate and assist offenders in the achievement of a civic-minded existence whenever possible. The new, unilateral policies implemented by the Dallas County District Attorney, refusing to prosecute certain crimes, hamper our abilities to evaluate each criminal offense individually to determine the best course of action for the victim, the offender, and the community as a whole. This is especially true as the policies limit the access that first-time, low level offenders (those most likely to be rehabilitated) will have to beneficial treatment, diversion, and educational programs which are regularly offered through modern county courts.

Our officers take an oath to uphold the law and protect everyone's constitutional rights and we will continue to do so. Our officers will remain steadfast in enforcing our State laws in accordance with the best use of discretion without completely disregarding laws your elected officials thought necessary to protect and serve your interests. While the Dallas County District Attorney has stated he will not prosecute many offenses at the county level, there are lesser offenses included in the prohibited conduct that are still within the jurisdiction of city municipal courts. While charging these offenses at the city level offers fewer resources in terms of diversion courts, treatment plans, community service, education/awareness, and monitored probation, our municipal prosecutors have assured us they will continue to accept and prosecute these cases in order to retain some avenue for offender rehabilitation and accountability.

We assure you our police departments will remain committed to ensuring the criminal justice system works equitably for everyone, and we will incarcerate offenders when permitted by state law and needed to deliver justice for all involved, especially the victims impacted by such crimes. While the District Attorney's Theft policy was not discussed with us prior to its release, in the weeks ahead we hope he and his Office will be open to genuine collaboration to further discuss our concerns related to all of his new policies, outlined in his letter to the People of Dallas County dated April 11, 2019, which eliminate the ability to evaluate each case on its own unique circumstances. As your Chiefs of Police, we will continually strive for a system that enforces the law in a fair and equitable manner. We hope that the District Attorney will work with us to ensure the fairest and most equitable system, for the entire community, is in place.



Steve Dye, Grand Prairie



Jeff Spivey, Irving



Jimmy Spivey, Richardson



Jeff Bryan, Garland



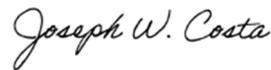
Charles Cato, Mesquite



Derick Miller, Carrollton



Mike Broadnax, Rowlett



Joseph Costa, Desoto



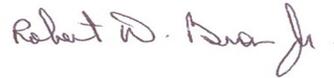
Ely Reyes, Cedar Hill



Rick Pyle, Highland Park



Greg Spradlin, University Park



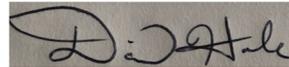
Robert D. Brown, Jr, Duncanville



Anthony Henderson, Wylie



Bryan Sylvester, Sachse



David Hale, Farmers Branch