About the DA’s Office

The Dallas County District Attorney’s Office is led by Criminal District Attorney John Creuzot and represents the State of Texas in the prosecution of Dallas County criminal cases.

The DA’s Office works to serve the citizens of Dallas County and has many specialized units including Crimes Against Children, Family Violence, Mental Health, Sexual Assault, Gang Violence, Organized Crime and a Conviction Integrity Unit.

DA Creuzot and his staff are focused on serving the people of Dallas County by seeking justice through steadfastly prosecuting those who commit violent crimes, connecting with the community, and pursuing criminal justice reform. He is also committed to reducing mass incarceration through an innovative approach to low level, first time offenders.

The DA’s Office offers many Restorative Justice Programs including:

- DIVERT—Adult Drug Court Program
- AIM —Youthful Offender Program
- SET—Felony Mental Health Program

The DA’s Office also offers several Community Engagement programs that play a vital role in helping to make Dallas County a safer and better place to live, work and play. Some of the programs include:

- Community Advisory Board
- Citizen Prosecutor Academy
- DA’s in Schools
- Youth Advisory Council

DA Creuzot believes that Justice is HARD work and Justice is HEART work.

For more information about services and programs offered, please visit the DA’s Office website https://www.dallascounty.org/government/district-attorney/

Meet the District Attorney

John Creuzot was overwhelmingly elected to the office of the Dallas County District Attorney in November 2018.

He is a retired Judge and an award-winning lawyer with more than three decades of experience in the criminal justice system, including more than 21 years as a Felony District Court Judge. His background also includes seven years of service as a Dallas County Assistant District Attorney and Chief Felony Prosecutor as well as a criminal defense lawyer while in private practice.

In addition to his trusted service on both sides of the bench, Creuzot has earned a national reputation for his innovative work on drug courts, criminal justice reform and evidence-based sentencing.

After his retirement from the judiciary, Dallas County honored Creuzot by renaming its drug treatment facility the Judge John C. Creuzot Judicial Treatment Center in May of 2013. The center provides an intensive residential program as an alternative to incarceration for Dallas County probationers.

John Creuzot was born in New Orleans and spent his youth in Houston before coming to the Dallas area in the 1970s and graduating from the University of North Texas in 1978 and Southern Methodist University School of Law in 1982. He is a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church. His son is a college freshman at a major university in Texas with plans to become an attorney.
What Happens After An Arrest?*

**Misdemeanor**
- Police File Case With DA’s Office
- DA Intake Prosecutor Evaluates Case For Acceptance or Rejection
  - If Accepted, Case Filed In County Court
  - DA Court Prosecutor Reviews Case, Consults With Defense Attorney, Provides Discovery, And Makes Sentencing Recommendation
  - Defendant Consults With Defense Attorney
    - Plea Of Guilty
      - Sentencing By Judge
      - Guilty
        - Sentencing By A Judge Or Jury
    - Plea Of Not Guilty
      - Trial Before A Judge Or Jury Followed By A Verdict
      - Not Guilty
        - Sentencing By A Judge Or Jury
  - DA’s Office May Dismiss Case

**Felony**
- Police File Case With DA’s Office
- DA Intake Prosecutor Evaluates Case For Acceptance or Rejection
  - If Accepted, Case Sent To Grand Jury
    - Case True-Billed by Grand Jury and Indictment Filed In District Court
    - Case No-Billed By Grand Jury
  - DA Court Prosecutor Reviews Case, Consults With Defense Attorney, Provides Discovery, And Makes Sentencing Recommendation

Diversion Programs**
**The DA’s Office also advocates for pre-trial diversion opportunities for those who qualify. Currently, the DA’s Office funds and sponsors 2 diversion programs, A.I.M. (for youth offenders) and S.E.T. (for offenders suffering from mental illness). Additionally, the DA’s Office participates in 13 other specialty courts or diversion programs run by a sitting district or county court judge.

*This diagram shows a general summary of the workflow of a criminal case and does not reflect all possible steps in the criminal justice process.

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE TO SERVE ON A GRAND JURY?
Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 19.08.

QUALIFICATIONS. A person may be selected or serve as a grand juror only if the person:
(1) is at least 18 years of age; (2) is a citizen of the United States; (3) is a resident of this state and of the county in which the person is to serve; (4) is qualified under the constitution and laws to vote in the county in which the grand jury is sitting, regardless of whether the person is registered to vote; (5) is of sound mind and good moral character; (6) is able to read and write; (7) has not been convicted of misdemeanor theft or felony; (8) is not under indictment or other legal accusation for misdemeanor theft or a felony; (9) is not related within the third degree of consanguinity or second degree of affinity, as determined under Chapter 573, Government Code, to any person selected to serve on the same grand jury; (10) has not served as a grand juror in the year before the date on which the term of court for which the person has been selected as a grand juror begins; and (11) is not a complainant in any matter to be heard by the grand jury during the term of court for which the person has been selected as a grand juror.

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE TO SERVE ON A PETIT (TRIAL) JURY?
Texas Government Code, Sec. 62.102.

GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR JURY SERVICE. A person is disqualified to serve as a petit juror unless the person:
(1) is at least 18 years of age; (2) is a citizen of the United States; (3) is a resident of this state and of the county in which the person is to serve as a juror; (4) is qualified under the constitution and laws to vote in the county in which the person is to serve as a juror; (5) is of sound mind and good moral character; (6) is able to read and write; (7) has not been convicted of misdemeanor theft or a felony; and (8) is not under indictment or other legal accusation for misdemeanor theft or a felony.