

JOHN CREUZOT CRIMINAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS

For Immediate Release November 26, 2019 For more information, contact Brittany Dunn, (214) 653-2710

THIRD ANNUAL EXPUNCTION EXPO TO CONCLUDE WITH OVER 300 EXPUNCTIONS TO BE GRANTED

Dallas, Texas--- The third annual Expunction Expo will conclude with a ceremony in which Dallas County Criminal District Attorney John Creuzot and other County officials will present individuals with proof of their granted expunction. In fact, due to this year's Expo, approximately 330 people will ultimately be granted an expunction, a legal process used to clear the criminal record of qualifying offense (s) from one's record, as prescribed by law.

The expunction expo is an annual effort, spearheaded by the Dallas County District Attorney's Office, in partnership with the Dallas County District Clerk's Office, led by Hon. Felicia Pitre. The Expo's purpose is to provide as many *qualified* individuals with an opportunity to clear their criminal records so that they may obtain housing, employment and education. Without the impediment of the expunged offense on their record, they are placed in an optimal position to positively contribute to society, support their family and community and most importantly avoid future incarceration.

The Office's Expunction Expo, which continues to gain momentum each year is another way that Dallas County District Criminal Attorney John Creuzot seeks to reform the current criminal justice system and address recidivism rates and their effect on our community.

"When there is an opportunity to improve the Dallas County criminal justice system and make our community safer, I am absolutely going to support those efforts," District Attorney John Creuzot said. "While this Expo is an excellent initiative in furthering our goal of criminal justice reform, its effects on those we are able to help every year, is the ultimate reward for my administration. We now have over 300 individuals who have access to employment, education and housing to improve their lives. That's 300 people who are more likely to succeed at taking care of themselves, their families and their community. That's 300 people who are less likely to re-offend, saving all of us tax-payer dollars while improving the overall safety of Dallas County. Most importantly, it's 300 people who will have a renewed hope in our justice system," he continued.

This year's event will also feature a well-rounded resource fair. By collaborating with community organizations and government entities, DA Creuzot hopes to provide further assistance to those in attendance by providing access to housing, employment and education.

With the help of major community partners like the Dallas Bar Association, UNT Dallas School of Law, the Dallas County Public Defender's Office and the City of Dallas, the Dallas County's District Attorney and District Clerk, have provided not only a fresh start for these qualifying individuals, but for our justice system as a whole.

Details about this event can be found on the following page.

###

2019 Expunction Expo* Part Two: Expunction Presentation Ceremony and Resource Fair

Saturday, December 7, 2019 10:00am-12:00pm Jubilee Park and Recreation Center

Available for media for approximately 30 minutes immediately following the ceremony:

Hon. John Creuzot

Dallas County Criminal District Attorney

Hon. Felicia Pitre Dallas County District Clerk

To schedule additional interviews on another date regarding this initiative in criminal justice reform efforts, please contact Brittany Dunn using the information below:

Brittany Dunn, Assistant District Attorney Dallas County District Attorney's Office 133 N. Riverfront Blvd. LB 19 Dallas, TX 75208 <u>brittany.dunn@dallascounty.org</u> (214) 653-2710-*direct*

*While media is welcome at this event, it is imperative to preserve the anonymity of those who have received expunction, so as not to undermine the very effects/benefits of obtaining an expunction. Therefore, **no media** (photo, print, video, etc.) should contain the face, name or any other identifying feature of an individual who has been granted an expunction, without the individual's express permission.

Frank Crowley Courts Building, 133 North Industrial Boulevard, LB-19 Dallas, Texas 75207-4399 (214) 653-3600

Frank Crowley Courts Building, 133 North Industrial Boulevard, LB-19 Dallas, Texas 75207-4399 (214) 653-3600