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For Immediate Release: Dallas County District Attorney's Office Celebrates 6th Annual Expunction Expo with Graduation Ceremony

(DALLAS) – Dallas County Criminal District Attorney John Creuzot, along with Dallas County District Clerk Felicia Pitre and many others, celebrate the culmination of the 6th Annual Dallas County Expunction Expo.

"I am proud to say the Expunction Expo is stronger and more important than ever in the lives of not only our participants but also in the lives of those who work to make this event possible," Dallas County Criminal District Attorney John Creuzot said of the Expo.

As a result of this year's event, more than 450 expunctions have been entered. Of those, 121 people will have had their entire criminal histories cleared. To date, through the work of those involved in this annual event, upwards of 2,250 expunctions have been granted.

"Our goal through this program is and always has been to make expunctions accessible to those who might not otherwise be able to afford an attorney or know how to navigate the legal system," DA Creuzot said. "We all benefit from every Dallas County citizen being as productive and involved in the local community as possible. That includes owning a home, obtaining an education, getting a job – all things that may not be possible with a criminal arrest record."

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. The Expo's purpose is to provide as many qualified individuals as possible with an opportunity to clear their criminal records. 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 avoid future incarceration.

This year's expo would not have been possible without the collaborative efforts of The Dallas County District Clerk's Office, The Dallas County District Attorney's Office, The Dallas City Attorney's Office, The City of Dallas Community Courts, The Texas Offender Re-entry Initiative (T.O.R.I.), Unlocking Doors, and New Friends New Life.

Thank you to our Judges who signed the expunction orders this year. They are:

The Honorable Tina Clinton
The Honorable Hector Garza
The Honorable Lela Mays
The Honorable Audra Riley
The Honorable Dale Tillery, and
The Honorable Ernest White

And thank you, to the many volunteer attorneys, law firms, and legal organizations who donated their time and efforts to represent all our applicants, including:

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld
Carter Arnett
The Dallas Bar Association Entrepreneurs in Community Lawyering program
The Dallas County Public Defender's Office
Jones Day and their partner, American Airlines
Kirkland & Ellis
Legal Aid of Northwest Texas
Locke Lord
Perkins Coie
Spangler Law
UNT Dallas College of Law, and
Winston & Strawn

The 6th Annual Expunction Expo by the Numbers:

Number of applicants reviewed for participation: 1525

Number of people matched with attorneys: 753

Number of Expo expunction petitions filed: 465

Number of expunctions granted: 455*

*Of these, 121 people had their entire criminal histories cleared

Number of attorneys who filed expunction petitions: 94

Total of expunctions granted from all Expos: More than 2,250

For information about obtaining an expunction outside of the Expo, please visit the Dallas County District Clerk's website.