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For Immediate Release: Court Unanimously Affirms Temporary Injunction Blocking Enforcement of Attorney General Paxton's Prosecutor Reporting Rules, Citing Violation of Texas Law

(DALLAS) – On December 30, 2025, the Texas Fifteenth Court of Appeals unanimously upheld the temporary injunction issued in the lawsuit brought by John Creuzot, Dallas County Criminal District Attorney, and Dallas County; Joe Gonzales, Bexar County Criminal District Attorney and Bexar County; and Sean Teare, Harris County District Attorney and Harris County, among others, challenging the Texas Attorney General's administrative rules adopted in Chapter 56 in Title 1 of the Texas Administrative Code.

The court affirmed a temporary injunction previously issued by a Travis County district court, finding that the Attorney General does not have express rule-making authority under state law to mandate broad, ongoing reports from local prosecutors. The court also agreed that enforcing the rules would cause immediate and irreparable harm by diverting limited prosecutorial resources away from public safety and risking the disclosure of confidential and legally protected information.

"While this ruling is only preliminary, it shows progress in the right direction. Yet another court has ruled that Attorney General Paxton overstepped his authority by proposing to enforce these rules with the likelihood of costing taxpayers millions of dollars," commented Dallas County Criminal District Attorney John Creuzot.

The reporting rules, adopted by the Attorney General in early 2025, would have required prosecutors in large counties to submit extensive data, internal policies, correspondence, and case files, including confidential victim and witness information such as child abuse files and pornography, among other sensitive materials. Failure to comply could have unlawfully exposed elected prosecutors to removal from office. The Court of Appeals emphasized that while the Attorney General may request information on a case-by-case basis, he cannot impose mandatory statewide reporting requirements without clear authorization from the Texas Legislature.

The temporary injunction remains in place for Dallas County and the other prosecutors who brought the lawsuit as the case returns to the trial court for further proceedings.

To date, this litigation will cost Dallas County at least \$349,000¹, costs that we expect Attorney General Paxton to oppose reimbursing even if we ultimately succeed on the merits of the case.

This marks the second time² that John Creuzot, in his capacity as Dallas County Criminal District Attorney, has either been a party to or intervened in litigation to halt unlawful actions by Attorney General Ken Paxton. To date, both efforts have been successful.

¹ Dallas County Briefing/Court Order, Commissioners Court, Oct 07 2025,
<https://dallascounty.civicweb.net/document/1033310/Authorize%20a%20four-month%20service%20price%20agreement%20.pdf?handle=2CD5800627BA4764ACB984F0601E7D7D>

² State of Texas v. Zena Collins Stephens, Court of Criminal Appeals Sept 28 2022,
https://search.txcourts.gov/SearchMedia.aspx?MediaVersionID=07941a5e-5f59-4b7a-8970-9cf3d49f9c3e&coa=coscca&DT=REHEAR&MedialD=e163b3a2-b245-4544-8096-c5d3e28a82db&fbclid=IwAR2VfgDhrEyJOTNORG_7FWofpCqvd8dA5wV7DTmdMdAEIBYvnYmsXOzgDqk