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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Dallas County DA John Creuzot Announces \$15,000 Grant to Improve Transportation Access for Diversion Program Participants

(DALLAS) – Dallas County Criminal District Attorney John Creuzot announced today that the Dallas County District Attorney's Office has been awarded a \$15,000 grant from the Texas Bar Foundation to support a new initiative aimed at improving transportation access for individuals participating in pretrial diversion programs.

The grant will fund the pilot of a technology-based transportation program, *Expanding Mobility for Pretrial Diversion Using a Transportation App*, designed to reduce barriers that often prevent participants from successfully completing court ordered requirements. Through a centralized mobile platform, participants will have access to reliable transportation options, including public transit and ride-share services, to attend court dates, treatment sessions, employment obligations, and other program requirements.

"Transportation should never be the reason someone fails in a program designed to help them succeed," said DA Creuzot. "This grant allows us to remove a major barrier to compliance, improve outcomes for participants, and ultimately make our community safer."

Dallas County's specialty courts, including DIVERT and AIM, provide eligible individuals with an alternative to traditional prosecution by focusing on rehabilitation and addressing underlying issues such as substance use and mental health. Research shows that participants who successfully complete these programs are significantly less likely to reoffend.

However, many participants face transportation challenges that can lead to missed appointments, technical violations and program failure. This new app will replace traditional paper vouchers with a more efficient, flexible, and accountable system that allows participants to schedule and manage rides in real time while enabling program staff to monitor usage and ensure compliance.

The Dallas County District Attorney's Office will use data collected during the pilot program to evaluate its effectiveness and pursue additional funding to expand the initiative in the future.