The Death Penalty in North Texas

- With **108 total death sentences** since 1974, Dallas ranks second behind Harris County in use of the death penalty in Texas. Tarrant County juries are responsible for **74 death sentences overall**.

- New death sentences in Texas have **decreased precipitously** since peaking in 1999, when juries sentenced 48 people to death. In 2018, there were **7 new death sentences** statewide.

- Although Dallas and Tarrant Counties remain among Texas’ top sentencing counties, juries in those jurisdictions have imposed **just three new death sentences** over the last five years.

- In September, a Denton jury rejected the death penalty in the capital murder trial of Daniel Greco; Greco received a sentence of life in prison without parole.

- All 10 men sentenced to death in Dallas or Tarrant County since 2012 are **African-American**.

- Since 1973, **166 individuals** – including 13 people in Texas – have been released from death rows nationwide due to evidence of their wrongful conviction. This includes **Randall Dale Adams**, who spent more than a decade in prison for killing a Dallas police officer, and **Michael Toney**, who was wrongfully convicted in Tarrant County and released in 2009.

- More than **50 individuals in Dallas County** have been exonerated of other serious crimes since 2001; many of those exonerations were based on DNA evidence and/or mistaken eyewitness identification.

- Collectively, more than **40 people** sentenced to death in Dallas or Tarrant County have been removed from death row; in most cases, their sentences were commuted.

- The State of Texas has executed **565 people** since 1982. This includes **61 people** who were convicted in Dallas County and **42 people** who were convicted in Tarrant County.

- This year, three North Texas men have been executed. Two more men, both convicted in Dallas County, are set to be executed before the end of the year. Another North Texas man has received a stay of execution from the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals.

- Currently, there are **216 people on death row** in Texas, including 6 women. Of these, **23 were convicted in Dallas County** and **15 were convicted in Tarrant County**.

10/01/19