

The Death Penalty in Tarrant County

- Juries in Texas sent six new individuals to death row in 2024. **Tarrant County alone accounted for three of the new death sentences.**
- On May 1, 2025, a jury rejected the death penalty in the case of Lamont Cousins. Cousins was convicted of killing three people in 2020. **It is the second time since 2022 that a Tarrant County jury has rejected the death penalty.**
- Tarrant County, where juries have sentenced **77 people to death since 1974**, now ranks third alongside Bexar County in use of the death penalty in Texas, behind only Harris and Dallas counties.
- The six men sentenced to death in Tarrant County since 2013 are all people of color.
- The State of Texas has executed **595 people** since 1982. This includes **46 people** who were convicted in Tarrant County. Steven Nelson was executed on February 5, 2025.
- Since 1973, **200 individuals** – including 18 people in Texas – have been released from death rows nationwide due to evidence of their wrongful conviction. **Michael Toney** was wrongfully convicted in Tarrant County and released in 2009.
- **Seven individuals in Tarrant County** have been exonerated of serious crimes since 2001, largely on the basis of DNA evidence, official misconduct, and/or mistaken eyewitness identification.
- **18 people** sentenced to death in Tarrant County are no longer on death row; in most cases, their sentences were changed to life in prison or life in prison without parole or they died in custody of natural causes.
- Currently, there are 170 people on death row in Texas, including 7 women. Of this total population, **13 people were convicted in Tarrant County.**