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## ONLINE ACCESS TO PUBLIC COURT RECORDS NOW EASIER FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

(Fort Worth, TX) – In the most recent session of Tarrant County's Commissioners' Court, the Commissioners and District Clerk Tom Wilder agreed for the first time to waive fees for online access to court records by law enforcement agencies.

Court records are currently available online for those who purchase a subscription. This previously included access for law enforcement agencies.

This Fall, the chiefs of 42 police agencies in Tarrant County requested subscription fees be waived to allow law enforcement online access to public case files. The decision to waive these fees was made at Commissioners' Court on Tuesday, December 11.

"On behalf of Tarrant County Police Chiefs, we are grateful to the County leadership for providing online access to public court records to our agencies at no cost," said Steve Dye, Chief of Police, Grand Prairie Police Department. "This innovative measure will greatly enhance the investigative work of our officers through more efficiently accessing data and monitoring our criminal cases as they progress through the system. We appreciate Criminal District Attorney Wilson, Sheriff Waybourn, and our Tarrant County Commissioners for enabling us all to better serve our citizens."

"This was a great decision by the Commissioners and District Clerk," said CDA Sharen Wilson. "I know it was very appreciated by law enforcement, and will be of immeasurable assistance to officers and detectives as they continue to track their cases through the court system."

## END ##

To access the District Clerk's web-based court record system, please visit: <u>http://www.tarrantcounty.com/en/district-clerk/services/web-based-access-service.html</u>