



Sharen Wilson Criminal District Attorney



For Immediate Release

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First of a Kind State Recognition

(Fort Worth, TX) – The Tarrant County Criminal District Attorney's Office is the first district attorney's office in the state to be named a "Recognized Law Enforcement Agency" by the Texas Police Chiefs Association Foundation.

This recognition given to the office's investigators is based on the TCCDA's participation in the voluntary program where agencies prove they are complying with the more than 168 rigorous Best Business Practices for law enforcement in Texas.

"I am very proud of the hard work by investigators in this office, who completed all the requirements needed to gain this recognition," Tarrant County Criminal District Attorney Sharen Wilson said. "Our office upholds these high standards of the law enforcement profession."

"We are honored to be the first District Attorney's Office to receive this recognition," said Maria Hinojosa, chief investigator.

These Best Practices were carefully developed by Texas law enforcement professionals to help agencies in the efficient and effective delivery of service and the protection of individual's rights. Best Practices cover aspects of law enforcement operations including use of force, protection of citizen rights, vehicle pursuits, property and evidence management, and patrol and investigative operations, according to the Texas Police Chiefs Association.

This recognition, formally presented to the CDA's Office during Tuesday's Tarrant County Commissioners Court meeting, lasts four years and requires the TCCDA's investigative division to submit annual reports showing continued compliance.

"This program raises the bar for Texas law enforcement, and we are very proud that your agency is such a terrific example of excellence," Max R. Westbrook Jr., director of the Texas Recognition Program, said in an email to the TCCDA's Office.

The recognition program began in 2006, requiring law enforcement agencies seeking this achievement to conduct critical self-reviews of their department's policies, procedures, facilities, and operations.

The Tarrant County CDA Office's investigative division will be recognized at the Texas Police Chiefs Association annual conference in Galveston in April. More information about the program is available online at texaspolicechiefs.org.

