

RAETHELLA JONES Chief - Civil Division

E. J. KING, JR. Chief Investigator

CRIMINAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY BRAZORIA COUNTY

August 27, 2021

Pursuant to Rules 304 and 309 of the Texas Rules of Professional Responsibility, as well as the *Schultz* decision, I want to follow up on my statement issued August 25, 2021.

As you are aware, this office has received allegations of improprieties or irregularities in the jury assembly process. The law requires jurors be selected at random and it is this process that is alleged to have been conducted improperly. Because this allegation involves an elected official, we have requested assistance from the Texas Rangers Public Integrity Unit to help investigate this matter. At this time, I cannot say how long the investigation will take because we do not know the scope or the magnitude of the problems that may be uncovered. All evidence relevant to this investigation will be presented to the Brazoria County Grand Jury for their consideration regarding any crimes that may have been committed. During the pendency of the criminal investigation, the District Attorney's Office will have no comment.

I have met with our new District Clerk, Ms. Donna Starkey, and I have every confidence that she will restore honor and integrity to the position of District Clerk and have assured her that the District Attorney's Office will assist her in that endeavor.

We are aware that the integrity of the jury system is of paramount importance and vital to our system of justice; my office is working diligently to restore confidence in the process.

As the investigation continues regarding this matter, appropriate further notifications pursuant to Rules 304 and 309 of the Texas Rules of Professional Responsibility, as well as the *Schultz* decision, will be made.

Tom Selleck

Brazoria County Criminal District Attorney