TEXAS 👆 DEMOCRATS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 9, 2023 **Contact:** Ike Hajinazarian, <u>ike@txdemocrats.org</u>

Texas Democratic Party Releases Testimonial from Allen Shooting Survivor and Impromptu First Responder

Video features Steven Spainhouer, a retired Texas law enforcement official, describing the horror he witnessed in Allen

Spainhouer calls for common sense gun safety legislation, including universal background checks and "red flag" laws

AUSTIN, Texas -- Today, the Texas Democratic Party released <u>a video testimonial</u> from Steven Spainhouer – a retired Texas law enforcement official – describing the horror he witnessed in Allen during Saturday's mass shooting, as well as recounting his efforts to help triage victims of the shooting.

In <u>the video</u>, Spainhouer also calls for common sense gun safety legislation, including universal background checks and "red flag" laws, to be implemented in Texas.



Click here or on the video above to watch Spainhouer's full testimonial.

Spainhouer, who is a veteran, a gun owner, and also serves on the State Democratic Executive Committee (SDEC), notes that in this latest shooting, Texas Republicans pulled out their usual playbook and deflected once again – pivoting away from real solutions and choosing to lean into offering prayers or obliquely discussing "mental

health." (As a reminder, Greg Abbott and Texas Republicans <u>cut mental health funding</u> <u>by \$211 million</u> last year alone).

Yesterday, Texas Democrats released <u>our list of five common sense gun safety proposals</u> that need to be progressed before the end of the current Legislative Session – along with a list of other gun safety bills filed by Democrats that Republicans have failed to act on. These priority proposals include:

- Universal, stringent, thorough background checks with no private sale or "gun show" loopholes
- Reasonable waiting periods to purchase a firearm
- Raising the age to 21 to purchase any firearm in Texas
- Extreme Risk Protection Orders a.k.a. a "Red Flag" Law
- Strict requirements for safe firearm storage