

JOHN CORNYN United States Senator – Texas For Immediate Release CONTACT: Natalie Yezbick, (202) 224-0704 Mary Kate Korinek, (512) 461-7036 Wednesday, September 20, 2023

Cornyn: Texas Attorney General's Office to Receive \$530K to Prosecute Cold Cases

WASHINGTON – The Texas Office of the Attorney General (OAG) was awarded a grant of \$533,200 to support the prosecution of violent crime cold cases, U.S. Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) announced today. This funding comes from the U.S. Department of Justice and was authorized by Sen. Cornyn's *Justice Served Act*.

"Tens of thousands of homicides remain unsolved in Texas due to a lack of available funding, technology, and staffing," said Sen. Cornyn. "I am hopeful this grant will help bring Texas families closure by empowering the Attorney General's Office to put more violent criminals behind bars, and I am proud to have played a role in securing this critical funding for our state."

Background:

Individual agencies often lack the available funding to dedicate personnel to work exclusively on cold cases. Forensic testing can be cost-prohibitive and unavailable for agencies when active cases require more immediate attention. In 2021, the Texas OAG created the Cold Case and Missing Persons Unit (Unit) to provide support to local agencies in the investigation and prosecution of unsolved homicide and missing persons cases. The Unit collaborates with local authorities to provide investigative assistance, training opportunities, state-of-the-art forensic testing, and other helpful resources in working unsolved homicide and missing persons cases.

Senator John Cornyn, a Republican from Texas, is a member of the Senate Finance, Intelligence, and Judiciary Committees.

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