



SAN JACINTO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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FOR MEDIA RELEASE

It has come to our attention that there are numerous misconceptions and a large amount of misinformation being spread via word of mouth and on social media concerning the Sheriff's election contest lawsuit against Mr. Sam Houston. This brief statement will dispel the false rumors and misconceptions being circulated.

- The Sheriff's Office received complaints from citizens of San Jacinto County alleging possible voter fraud had occurred in the San Jacinto County primary elections this year. These complaints were received in early April, after the recount had occurred.
- Sheriff Capers tasked Chief Deputy Kean with selecting a few of Deputies to conduct an inquiry into these allegations, as he does with every allegation of violations of the law. Subsequently, as facts came to light that seemed to support the initial allegations Chief Deputy Kean formed a small task force of investigators that quickly discovered information leading them to believe that a substantial number of illegal/ineligible votes had been cast and counted.
- The Sheriff is the highest-ranking law enforcement officer in any county in Texas and is constitutionally mandated with responsibility for enforcing ALL law, investigating crimes, operating the county jail, and providing security for the courts.
- Sheriff Capers, like all Sheriffs across this state, is obligated to investigate ALL violations of the law that are brought to his attention. At times, these investigations may be unpopular with certain portions of the public. However, professional and personal integrity requires seeking out the facts and exposing the truth. This can, at times be painful, but will always result in transparency.
- On 4/29/24, Chief Deputy Kean contacted the Election Integrity Division of the Texas Attorney General's Office concerning this investigation. The Attorney General's Office has been actively involved since that time.
- Sheriff Capers filed the lawsuit on May 20, 2024, ONLY after the task force discovered that enough illegal/ineligible votes had been cast and counted to have affected the true outcome of the Sheriff's race.
- By Texas law, the only legal means for recourse to challenge or contest an election result is that one must file a civil lawsuit. There is no other legal mechanism for recourse.
- The suit was filed in the 411th District Court in San Jacinto County and Judge Albert McCaig was appointed to preside over the case.
- Mr. Houston, through his attorney, filed a motion for summary judgment to have the lawsuit dismissed.
- The initial hearing on the case was held on 8/5/24. After hearing evidence and arguments from both Sheriff Capers' and Mr. Houston's attorneys Judge McCaig ruled against Mr. Houston, denying his motion for summary judgment and set a trial date of 9/25/24.
- Mr. Houston, through his attorney, filed a second motion for summary judgment seeking to have the lawsuit dismissed. Judge McCaig denied Mr. Houston's second motion for summary judgment.
- On Friday, 9/20/24, less than one week before the trial was originally scheduled to begin Mr. Houston, through his attorney, requested a reset to gain more time to prepare for trial. Sheriff Capers' attorney agreed to the request and Judge McCaig granted Mr. Houston's request for a reset and the trial is now set to begin on 10/21/24.
- The civil trial has no bearing on the criminal investigation into potential voter fraud and/or elections fraud that may have been committed by those registering to vote illegally, voting illegally, or allowing illegal votes to be cast in San Jacinto County. The criminal investigation into these allegations will continue and the facts revealed will be presented to the appropriate criminal prosecutor(s).
- Sheriff Capers strongly believes that for the public to have confidence in the electoral process in San Jacinto County (and throughout our state and nation) that every legal vote MUST be counted and every illegal vote MUST be discarded so that the reported outcome of ANY election is the TRUE outcome. It is Sheriff Capers belief that ALL citizens of San Jacinto County have a right to know exactly what transpired during the San Jacinto County primary election of 2024. This lawsuit is about "doing what's right" and ensuring that the truth is exposed to the public.