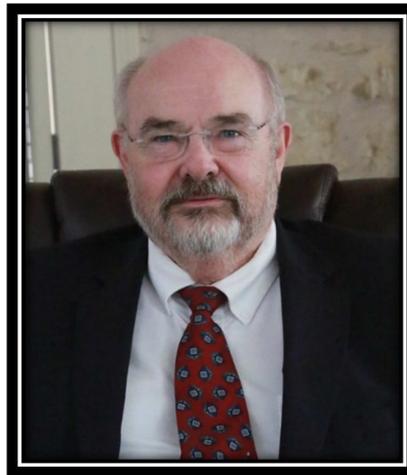


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FROM THE OFFICE OF
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KERR COUNTY VICTIM'S
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KERRVILLE, TX 78028

County Eye Newsletter



Longtime 216th District Attorney E. Bruce Curry has announced he will retire when his current term ends in late 2016. Curry is the longest serving active district attorney in the State of Texas encompassing 254 counties and over 450 judicial districts.

Curry has served as district attorney for the past 31 years representing the State of Texas in Gillespie, Kerr, Kendall and Bandera counties.

“It has been an honor and privilege to serve as district attorney over the past three decades,” Curry said. “There obviously have been many changes within the district, as well as the criminal justice system itself during this period of time. However, the underlying responsibility of prosecuting felony cases in the district has remained constant.”

The district served by Curry’s office began with the four counties but redistricting by the Texas Legislature in 2013 moved Bandera County to the 198th Judicial District and legislation passed last May created a new judicial district for Kendall County only beginning in January 2017.

“I am very proud of my staff, both past and present, as I believe the record reflects that our office has consistently represented the constituents in this district effectively,” Curry added.

A graduate of the University of Texas and the UT School of Law, Curry has been licensed to practice law in Texas since 1972. He served as Justice of the Peace in Pct. 1 and also served as the municipal judge for the City of Kerrville before being elected district attorney in 1984.

Curry said the biggest challenge in his years as DA has been the changing laws and changing types of crimes over the period. Almost every legislative session means new laws or changes to current laws in the state’s Code of Criminal Procedure.

“Drug usage is much more prolific in today’s world,” Curry said. “A majority of the cases presented for indictment in grand jury every month are directly or indirectly related to substance abuse.”

Procedurally so many changes have come to his office as a result of events outside of the 216th Judicial District such as the Michael Morton Act related to discovery rules. The legislation requires the prosecutor’s office to provide all evidence to the defendant’s attorney prior to any plea offer or trial.

“The Michael Morton Act has put an extra burden on the prosecutor representing the State of Texas to protect the rights of a defendant,” he said. “Our office has had an open file policy since 1985 but we have been impacted because of the events in other courts around the state.”

The Code of Criminal Procedure has grown over the years and presents challenges I couldn’t even imagine in 1985, Curry added.

Curry plans to spend more time with family. He and his wife, Sharon, a retired teacher, just welcomed two new grandchildren to their family. His retirement plans also include travel, and he admits he has the option of returning to a private law practice in the future.

“I want to especially thank members of law enforcement and all the citizens within the 216th Judicial District for their assistance and support over the years.”