



NEWS RELEASE

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CLEAT Marks 50 Years of Representing Texas Law Enforcement

AUSTIN, TX—The Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Texas (CLEAT) is commemorating 50 years of service to Texas law enforcement, marking five decades of legal defense, legislative advocacy, and member representation across the state.

Founded in 1976 by a group of officers seeking independent, member-driven representation while attending a law enforcement conference in San Antonio, CLEAT has now grown into the largest law enforcement association in Texas. For half a century, the organization has provided legal protection, contract and bargaining support, and a strong voice in the Texas Capitol on issues impacting public safety professionals.

“For 50 years, CLEAT has stood firmly behind the men and women who protect our communities,” said Scott Leeton, President of CLEAT. “Our foundation was built on independence and a member-first approach. That mission continues today as we defend careers, protect due process, and advocate for those who wear the badge and safeguard our communities.”

Over the past five decades, CLEAT has represented thousands of officers in critical incidents, administrative proceedings, and complex legal matters. The organization remains member-funded and focused on ensuring law enforcement professionals have experienced, dedicated legal defense and consistent representation statewide.

As CLEAT reflects on its history, leadership emphasizes that the anniversary is not only a milestone but a forward-looking commitment.

“The challenges facing law enforcement continue to evolve,” said Robert Leonard, Executive Director of CLEAT. “Our job is to make sure officers have the representation and protection they need now and in the years ahead. We have continued to adapt to meet the changing needs of Texas law enforcement, and we will continue doing so for future generations.”

About CLEAT: *Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Texas (CLEAT) is the largest statewide law enforcement association in Texas, dedicated to providing legal protection, legislative advocacy, and professional support for law enforcement professionals statewide and consisting of over 28,000 members. With a commitment to protecting the rights of officers and ensuring they have the resources needed to serve their communities effectively, CLEAT stands at the forefront of law enforcement representation. For more information, visit www.cleat.org.*

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