



**The Honorable District Attorney
Dallas County
Craig Watkins**

January 1, 2007, Craig Watkins became the first African-American elected to the office of District Attorney in Dallas County, Texas. Mr. Watkins pledged to be “smart on crime”, an innovative philosophy embodied in the prosecutor’s primary responsibility which is “to seek justice”. Mr. Watkins continues to vigorously prosecute the county’s most violent offenders while simultaneously engaging strategies which seek to address the primary causes for the commission of low level crimes.

Mr. Watkins has created and or expanded a number of programs and initiatives unique to Dallas County in an effort to maximize the use of the taxpayers dollars, among his new initiatives are: The Sexual Assault Unit, the Memo Agreement Program, the Gang Unit, the Impact Offender Program, and The Conviction Integrity Division in a partnership with the Innocence Project of Texas.

Mr. Watkins is a native of Dallas, and received his primary education in the Dallas, and received his primary education in the Dallas Public Schools. Following graduation from Prairie View A&M University, Mr. Watkins received his Juris Doctorate from Texas Wesleyan University School of Law. He is active in a number of professional, public service and civic organizations. He and his wife, Tanya, are the proud parents of three children.

- Texas Monthly Magazine, September 2007 – “Craig’s List” Profile Story on District Attorney Watkins
- District Attorney Watkins was featured in the November 2008 issue of GOVERNING as one of the Public Officials of the Year
- District Attorney Watkins was selected in December 2008 by the Dallas Morning News as the TEXAN OF THE YEAR
- D Magazine, March 2009 – “American Rebel- Dallas DA CraigWatkins”
- District Attorney Watkins’ innovative strategies as the new D A in Dallas County has garnered him national and international attention from German TV, New York Times, CNN, 60 Minutes, Washington Post, L A Times, Chicago Tribune just to name a few.

