

Military, Law, and more ...

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Statement from current and former officers of Tennessee District Attorneys General Conference on DA Steve Mulroy

July 11, 2026 - The undersigned members of the Tennessee District Attorneys General Conference strongly reject the assertions made in the recent opinion column [in the Tennesseean] authored by Shelby County District Attorney General Steve Mulroy regarding law enforcement, police training, and the prosecution of officer-involved shootings.

General Mulroy writes only for himself. He does not speak for Tennessee's other thirty-one elected District Attorneys General. This is not the first time he has chosen to speak for himself. He has mused about the benefits of a diversion program for convicted felons illegally possessing firearms, made agreements in lawsuits to further his own ideology at the expense of the other thirty-one districts, and routinely taken positions that do not reflect the thoughts or beliefs of his fellow elected prosecutors.

We have remained silent. We will no longer.

His article presents sweeping conclusions based upon a single training program while suggesting that prosecutors who decline to prosecute officer-involved shootings are simply validating a culture in which deadly force is routinely excused. That portrayal is inaccurate, irresponsible, and

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unfair to prosecutors across Tennessee who make these difficult decisions every year. His words are reckless.

District Attorneys do not decide cases based upon opinion pieces, political ideology, media narratives, or personal philosophy. We decide cases based upon evidence, applicable law, and our constitutional duty to seek justice.

General Mulroy repeatedly declares highly controversial incidents "justified" or "unjustified" as though those determinations are self-evident. They are not. Every officer-involved shooting presents unique facts, forensic evidence, witness testimony, medical findings, and legal questions that deserve careful, inde-

pendent evaluation. Suggesting otherwise diminishes the seriousness of the prosecutorial function.

Perhaps most troubling is the implication that prosecutors who conclude an officer acted lawfully are somehow failing in their responsibilities. Such rhetoric unfairly questions the integrity of elected prosecutors who have devoted decades to objectively enforcing the law without fear or favor. With his reckless words, it is General Mulroy who has failed in his responsibility.

The role of a prosecutor is not to validate a political movement, nor to defend a profession. It is to apply the law impartially.

When the evidence establishes that a police officer committed a crime, prosecutors have an obligation to file charges. When the evidence does not establish a criminal offense beyond a reasonable doubt, prosecutors have an equally important obligation to decline prosecution. Justice requires both.

General Mulroy's article also paints with an extraordinarily broad brush regarding police training. Tennessee law enforcement officers receive extensive training through POST-certified academies, continuing education, agency policies, constitutional law instruction, and evolving best

practices. To suggest that officers across this state are simply "trained to kill" is a profound disservice to the thousands of men and women who serve honorably while placing themselves in danger every day.

No prosecutor welcomes the loss of life in an encounter between law enforcement and a citizen. Every such incident is tragic. Every such incident deserves careful investigation. Every such incident deserves an independent legal review. But tragedy alone does not establish criminal liability.

We are equally concerned by the effect of public statements that undermine confidence in prosecutors and law enforcement through broad accusations unsupported by the actual facts of individual cases. Public trust is strengthened by transparency, professionalism, and objective decision-making...not by inflammatory generalizations.

Tennessee's District Attorneys General have prosecuted police officers when the facts and the law required it. We have also declined prosecution when the evidence did not support criminal charges. Both decisions require independence. Both decisions require courage. Both reflect the same unwavering commitment:

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to follow the evidence wherever it leads.

That commitment remains the cornerstone of prosecution in Tennessee.

We will continue to judge every case the same way: by the facts, by the law, and by our oath...not by politics, ideology, or public pressure.

The above statement is provided by the following:

Gen. Mark Davidson, President of the TNDAGC Executive Committee & District Attorney of

Tennessee's 25th Judicial District

Gen. Ray Crouch, Vice President of the TNDAGC Executive Committee & District Attorney of Tennessee's 23rd Judicial District

Gen. Dan Armstrong, Secretary of the TNDAGC Executive Committee & District Attorney of Tennessee's 3rd Judicial District

Gen. Jared Effler, Former President of the TNDAGC Executive Committee & District Attorney of Tennessee's 8th Judicial District

Gen. Bryant Dunaway, Former President of the TNDAGC Executive Committee & District Attorney of Tennessee's 13th Judicial District

Gen. Dave Clark, Former President of the TNDAGC Executive Committee & District Attorney of Tennessee's 7th Judicial District

Gen. Jody Pickens, Former President of the TNDAGC Executive Committee & District Attorney of Tennessee's 26th Judicial District

Gen. Ryan Desmond, Chairman of the Finance and Audit Committee & District Attorney of Tennessee's 5th Judicial District.

The Gun Rights Policy Conference (GRPC) announces Judge Roger Benitez as keynote speaker in 41st Annual event, Sept. 25-27

BELLEVUE, Wash. — July 13, 2026 — The Gun Rights Policy Conference (GRPC) planning committee announced that the Honorable Roger T. Benitez (Ret.) will give the keynote address during the 41st annual event set for Sept. 25 – 27 in Dallas at the Westin Dallas Fort Worth Airport hotel.

Judge Benitez served as a United States District Judge for the Southern District of California from 2004 until his retirement in April 2026. Appointed by President George W. Bush, he previously practiced law in Imperial County, served as a California Superior Court judge, and was also a U.S. Magistrate Judge.

He earned national recognition as one of the most consequential judicial defenders of the Second Amendment in the post-Heller era. Applying the Supreme Court's decisions in Heller and Bruen, he issued rulings striking

A Cuban-born immigrant, Judge Benitez's principled rulings on the Second Amendment continue to shape the national debate over the right to keep and bear arms as the cases continue on appeal in the Ninth Circuit and the Supreme Court.

down California's ban on large-capacity magazines (Duncan v. Bonta), another ban on so-called "assault weapons" (Miller v. Bonta), and the state's error-prone ammunition background check (Rhode v. Bonta).

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Co-hosted by the Second Amendment Foundation (SAF) and the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms (CCRKBA), other notable GRPC 2026 speakers scheduled to speak include:

- Robert Cekada, Director of the ATF
- Robert Leider, ATF Chief Counsel, Office of Chief Counsel
- Brandon Herrera, Second Amendment advocate and Congressional candidate
- Jared Yanis, host of Guns & Gadgets YouTube channel
- Joseph Greenlee, Director of the Office of Litigation Counsel at the National Rifle Association Institute for Legislative Action
- Kenyon Gleason, president of National Association of Sporting Goods Wholesalers
- Shermichael Singleton, political consultant, television anchor, CNN analyst

- Jeff Folloder, Executive Director, NFA Trade and Collectors Association
- Chris Boeck, General Counsel and Chief Legal Officer at Silencer Shop
- Fernando Nava, Second Amendment advocate and owner of Rusty Wheel Ranch
- Cam Edwards, editor of BearingArms.com and the host of the Cam & Company podcast
- John Petrolino, writer, firearms instructor, and author of Decoding Firearms: An Easy to Read Guide on Basic Gun Safety & Use
- And many more!

In addition to GRPC, registrants also have the unique opportunity to further their Second Amendment advocacy efforts during Friday's pre-conference event, AMM-Con. This special event is a gathering of some of the top Second Amendment media members and influencers who provide educational presenta-

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District Attorney General Jimmy Dunn, of Tennessee 4th Judicial District, retires

Dunn served 20 years as an elected DA

NASHVILLE, Tenn. July 10, 2026— District Attorney General, Jimmy Dunn, of Tennessee's 4th Judicial District has announced his decision to retire from public service, effective August 31, concluding more than 20 years as elected District Attorney General and nearly four decades serving the citizens of East Tennessee. General Dunn called the Tennessee District Attorneys General Conference this morning to let us know of his decision.

"It's always gratifying to see an elected official choose to step away from service at the height of both their ability and integrity," said Tennessee District Attorneys General Conference Executive Director Stephen Crump. "Jimmy will be greatly missed in this Conference, but we are very thankful for the many good years he will have with his family in Cocke County."

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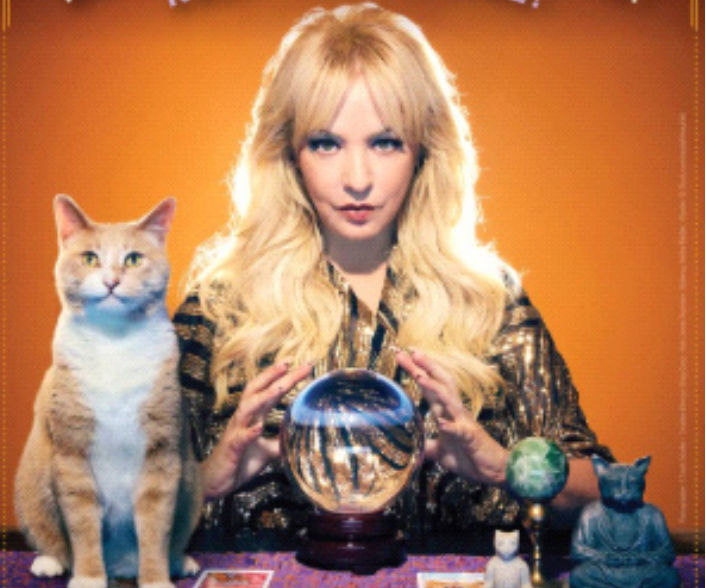
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