



KENNETH A. MAYFIELD  
DALLAS COUNTY COMMISSIONER  
DISTRICT 4

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DALLAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT  
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June 28, 2010

The Honorable Keith Self  
Collin County Judge  
2300 Bloomdale Rd., Ste 4192  
McKinney, TX 75071

Dear Judge and Commissioners,

This letter is being sent to you asking for your support.

As you may already know, the State of Texas ranks first in America for the worst traffic safety record. In 2008, there were 11,773 fatalities as a result of alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes in the United States. Alarming statistics show that nearly 10% of these fatalities occurred in Texas resulting in the loss of 1,269 lives, making Texas the leader in alcohol-related motor vehicle deaths.

Drunk driving is a crime! It results in countless accidents with injuries and/or death creating an unsafe driving environment for all Texans. Alcohol-related crashes are deadlier and more serious than any other crashes. The aftermath of emotional and financial burdens to families and loved ones is enormous with the overall costs associated with this crime estimated at \$114.3 billion in 2000.

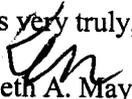
Since 1997, the Dallas County Commissioners Court has supported sobriety checkpoints. Joining them in the fight for safer roads and highways is the Dallas County DWI Task Force, pushing for statewide guidelines in Texas as an effective way to help reduce the crime of driving while intoxicated and the serious problems associated with it. Checkpoints are just one tool for law-enforcement in identifying and removing drunk drivers from our Texas roads, raising public awareness and encouraging voluntary compliance of DWI laws in the State of Texas.

Texas jumped a big hurdle in the last legislative session when checkpoints passed the Senate. Unfortunately they did not get out of committee in the House. The good news is we have another opportunity in the 82<sup>nd</sup> Session to further educate the members of the Senate and House on the urgency for checkpoints in Texas.

To help assist in this worthwhile cause for all Texans, I am asking the large urban counties in Texas to join the Dallas County Commissioners Court in the battle to help make Texas roads safer and more enjoyable to drive.

Please let me know if we can depend on your support of a resolution saying, "Yes, we support sobriety checkpoints creating safer highways for all Texans." A copy of our resolution has been enclosed for your review.

Yours very truly,

  
Kenneth A. Mayfield  
Dallas County Commissioner, Dist 4  
Chair, Dallas County DWI Task Force

CC: Matt Shaheen, County Commissioner, Precinct 1  
Jerry Hoagland, County Commissioner, Precinct 2  
Joe Jaynes, County Commissioner, Precinct 3  
Kathy Ward, County Commissioner, Precinct 4