

DISTRICT 2 ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

Updated August 28, 2026

Sad and Blue in District 2

Transparency • Accountability • Real Ethics • Election Integrity
An Independent Watchdog Resource for Dallas County District 2

Introduction

For four years, District 2 has been represented inside a **5–0 One-Party Machine** on the Commissioners Court with virtually no real opposition or independent oversight. The result has been a consistent pattern of failures grouped into three priorities:

- 1st — **Trust** (radical associations, weakened election integrity, and ethical conflicts)
- 2nd — **Wallet** (fiscal irresponsibility and unchecked government spending)
- 3rd — **Safety** (public safety, property rights, and accountability for core services)

This report documents the key failures of the incumbent Dallas County Commissioner for District 2 using public records, official documents, meeting minutes, budget documents, court filings, video recordings, and primary sources. It is a voter resource.

The problems did not happen by accident. They follow a pattern enabled by one-party rule. Because District 2 carries a disproportionate share of the county's tax burden (**roughly 40%**), the consequences fall especially hard here.

TRUST: Radical Associations, Election Integrity, and Ethical Concerns

Radical Associations

The incumbent advanced the Red-Green Alliance (the Marxist-Jihadist movement) by leveraging official power to influence elections.

A church, mosque, synagogue, or any other private facility can lawfully serve as a polling place. The problem is not the building's faith. The problem is the official's conduct.

The concern arises when:

1. Private facilities are used even though suitable public buildings are available; and
2. An elected official uses official authority to place election infrastructure inside locations tied to networks Texas leaders have designated as terrorist organizations — and then publicly takes political credit for doing so.

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That is what happened here. The incumbent used his office and taxpayer-funded communications to help establish mosque polling locations tied to those networks, then campaigned on the partisan result. That is not religious liberty. That is using the ballot box as a political weapon.

At his August 21, 2025 re-election kickoff, he highlighted opening permanent polling locations at three mosques and took credit that almost all new voters there voted for his party, helping elect Judge Tina Clinton. In a separate community-gathering video he claimed credit for making IANT Dallas County's first mosque polling location. One of those videos was later taken down on August 28, 2026.

IANT is the exhibit with receipts. In May 2025, after Isha prayers, the Islamic Association of North Texas hosted "From Marxism to Islam: The Revolutionary Road to Allah," organized by ICNA Dallas. Speakers included former Marxists who chose Islam, among them Imam Jihad Abdulmumit, formerly of the Young Lords and the Black Panther Party / Black Liberation Army, who served 23 years in prison. Video from the June 10, 2025 RAIR report shows speakers stating Islam and Western society cannot coexist and that Muslims in America may remain only if their intention is to "establish the Deen."

The incumbent also used the official District 2 newsletter to link to Fight Back! News, the newspaper of the Freedom Road Socialist Organization. FRSO's own site says it is organizing revolution in the United States and recruiting toward a new Communist Party based on Marxism-Leninism.

His public associations also include comfort with the far-left faction represented nationally by figures such as Zohran Mamdani, Rashida Tlaib, Ilhan Omar, and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. His newsletter featured former State Representative Terri Hodge, who had already pleaded guilty to fraud and served federal prison time.

He swore an oath to defend the Constitution and laws of Texas. Using official authority to embed election sites at institutions tied to designated networks, then taking partisan credit for it, places political interest above public duty.

Sources: Incumbent videos and county communications; RAIR Foundation (May and June 10, 2025); FRSO about page; official District 2 newsletter, January–February 2026; Texas Local Government Code § 81.002; Texas Constitution, Article XVI, § 1.

Election Integrity Failures

The incumbent fought against protecting voters' constitutional right to a secret ballot. He attacked precinct-based voting while defending a countywide system that weakens privacy, chain of custody, and auditability.

Under that system, records can link voters to ballot choices in low-volume scenarios. His own Deputy Chief of Staff, Todd Hensley, was identifiable when he was the only voter from his precinct at Esperanza. Other officials — including commissioners, Democratic Party Chairman

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Kardal Coleman, County Judge Clay Jenkins and his mother, County Clerk John Warren, and Tax Assessor John Ames — likewise had identifiable ballots.

During early voting in the March 2026 Primary, **9,682** voters lost ballot privacy under the system he supported: **7,324 Democrats** and **2,358 Republicans**. Election Day precinct voting restored privacy.

In October 2024, public testimony before Commissioners Court presented copies of those ballots and cited Texas Election Code §§ 122.001 and 123.002. The Court had authority to rescind the system and did not. The violations continued in later elections.

The incumbent fundraised by claiming precinct-based reform would “disenfranchise voters.” The opposite is true. Countywide voting also produced large turnout drops in participating Texas counties.

Sources: Dallas County Elections / dallascountyvotest.org; Texas Secretary of State Election Advisory No. 2024-20; Commissioners Court testimony, October 1, 2024; Brennan Center analysis of countywide voting access effects; Walter C. Daugherty, “Balancing Ballot Secrecy Versus Transparency,” June 16, 2024.

Ethical Concerns and Conflicts of Interest

On January 1, 2023, Judge Clay Jenkins swore in the incumbent as “my friend and my lawyer” and said he “really wanted to swear that one in.” Jenkins also celebrated the first fully “true progressive” Court.

Before taking office, the incumbent represented Jenkins in COVID litigation defending bans on in-person worship, mask mandates, and shelter-in-place orders. He then won a seat on the Court that oversees the courts where his firm still practices. Texas State Bar Ethics Opinion 530 identifies that structure as a conflict for the commissioner and the firm.

The same taxpayer-funded newsletter that amplified FRSO material is also an ethics issue: official resources used to promote radical political content.

After he represented Jenkins, District 2 was redrawn in a more partisan direction. He then defeated the commissioner who had pushed back against Jenkins’ unilateral emergency powers.

Sources: Dallas Morning News, January 1, 2023; Texas Scorecard, April–May 2020; Texas State Bar Ethics Opinion 530 (1999); Fight Back! News, March 3, 2026.

WALLET: Fiscal Irresponsibility

The Court treats District 2 like a personal ATM.

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It passed a **\$350 million** Certificate of Obligation package with no voter approval and no real debate. With interest, the cost is about **\$700 million**. District 2's share is about **\$280 million** — **\$1,300 per person, \$2,600 if married**. The package included **\$25 million** for a deflection center intended for District 2.

The incumbent voted for FY2026 budgets that raised property-tax bills, then joined the majority in raising the base county rate for the first time in 16 years and placing an additional permanent homelessness tax on the November ballot. Coverage describes a proposal generating roughly **\$103 million** a year, with District 2 responsible for about **\$41 million**. Related votes advanced a higher rate designed to generate about **\$150 million**, with District 2 on the hook for about **\$60 million**.

The official notice shows a proposed rate of **\$0.253150** per \$100. The rate increase is **17.47%**; the average homestead bill rises closer to **25%** because values also increased. On a \$350,000 home, the Dallas Morning News reported the county tax rising from about **\$754 to \$886**.

A separate childcare-style permanent tax proposal was estimated at about **\$132 million** a year, with District 2's share about **\$53 million**. The incumbent framed putting it on the ballot as "self-government" rather than opposing the tax.

He used taxpayer money for a special housing deal: he said he "took \$2.5 million," bought land, and would sell \$750,000 homes to selected buyers for \$400,000 with seven-year "golden handcuffs."

On July 1, 2026, the Court approved **\$600,000** for an interim Metrocare CFO amid an **\$18 million** projected loss. District 2's share of those losses is about **\$7.2 million**.

Dallas County has not had a true independent forensic audit of operations in many years despite managing nearly **\$3 billion** annually. A TPPF/Pulse poll found **90%** of Texans support required local efficiency audits.

Health, Human Services & Parkland

On September 9, 2025, the Commissioners Court unanimously approved Parkland Health's FY2026 operating and capital budgets (Court Order 2025-0983). The operating budget is **\$3.14 billion**. Another **\$132.9 million** was set aside for capital projects.

Local property taxes still fund nearly one-third of Parkland's total revenue. That is more than **\$800 million** coming directly from Dallas County taxpayers — including a disproportionate share from District 2. For the average taxpayer in this district, that local tax support adds up to thousands of dollars.

The approved budget included notable increases:

- Salaries and benefits up **4.7%**
- Benefits costs up **6.4%**

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- Supplies up **6.1%**
- Drugs up **7.0%**

Those increases were approved even as Parkland faces federal-funding pressure. Parkland's own FY2026 proposal still projected an operating loss of about **\$22 million**. District 2 taxpayers remain on the hook for a meaningful portion of that shortfall.

The incumbent has supported higher health and human services spending without pushing for a meaningful independent review or efficiency standard. Approving bigger budgets while losses continue — without a real forensic audit — is the same pattern seen in the \$350 million debt package and the homelessness tax: more money out the door, less accountability coming back.

Sources: Dallas Morning News (May 20, August 5, and August 11, 2026); Dallas County Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase; Dallas County Notice of Adopted Tax Rate (Court Order 2025-0984); Dallas County FY2026 Budget-In-Brief, adopted September 9, 2025 (Court Order 2025-0983); Richardson Area Democrats remarks, October 28, 2025; FOX 4 Metrocare reporting; TPPF/Pulse poll.

SAFETY: Jails, Justice, Homelessness, and Property Rights

Jails, Justice & Public Safety

The incumbent has not demanded full 287(g) cooperation or consistent ICE-detainer compliance. The Sheriff claims lack of resources while receiving budget increases. Attorney General Ken Paxton has said the Sheriff is violating state law by refusing the required 287(g) agreement.

To Richardson Democrats the incumbent said: “If you’re in that community and ICE comes to you and knocks on the door, don’t open it. Just don’t open the door. If they have a warrant, they’re going to have to show you. Don’t open the door is the answer.”

He joined the entire Commissioners Court in opposing Dallas HERO Propositions S, T, and U — measures to require a minimum of 4,000 police officers, increase police and fire pension and pay funding, and give residents more power to hold city government accountable. Two PACs raised more than **\$1 million** in a coordinated establishment campaign against the measures.

Sources: Texas Tribune, May 13, 2026; Texas Scorecard, May 13, 2026; Richardson Area Democrats ICE clip, October 28, 2025; Dallas Morning News, October 31, 2024; Dallas Morning News 2026 Primary Voter Guide.

Homelessness and Property Rights

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The incumbent testified in Austin against bipartisan House Bill 32, which would have made it faster for property owners to remove illegal squatters. His newsletter said the bill would burden Dallas County taxpayers.

He proposed raising the constable eviction fee from **\$70 to \$400** (a **470%** increase) to help fund deflection centers. Multnomah County data showed only **16% to 29%** of referred people completed deflection and engaged services. A meta-analysis of similar day-reporting programs found no overall recidivism reduction.

He described turning Esperanza into a “womb to tomb” hub for prenatal care through senior services, a model that risks permanent dependency funded in part by fees on property owners.

Dallas County still spends about **\$20 million per month** operating the jail and **\$5 million per month** at Parkland on care for unhoused individuals. District 2’s share is about **\$8 million** and **\$2 million** per month — about **\$38 per month / \$450+ per year** per District 2 taxpayer for the jail piece alone.

In September 2025 he held up the budget unless it included another **\$5 million** for Housing Forward and **\$1.5 million** for the Dallas Eviction Advocacy Center.

He then voted to put the permanent homelessness tax on the November ballot instead of demanding measurable results and property-owner protections.

Sources: Dallas Morning News, March 12, 2025 and August 5, 2026; District 2 newsletter, March–May 2025; Richardson Area Democrats clips, October 28, 2025; Multnomah County deflection reports; OregonLive; Journal of Offender Rehabilitation meta-analysis; KERA, May 12, 2026 and September 5, 2025.

THE ONE-PARTY MACHINE

Without real opposition or independent oversight, the Commissioners Court has been able to:

- Pass hundreds of millions in debt without voter approval — District 2 shouldering about **\$280 million** of the **\$700 million** total cost
- Raise the tax rate and place new permanent taxes on the ballot
- Approve **\$3.14 billion** in Parkland spending, including more than **\$800 million** in local tax support, while the system still projects losses and no independent forensic audit is required
- Raise fees on property owners to fund social programs
- Direct taxpayer money into special housing deals with long-term government restrictions
- Advise residents not to cooperate with federal immigration authorities
- Oppose public-safety and accountability measures requiring 4,000 officers and greater resident oversight
- Hide major decisions behind executive session

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- Allow clear conflicts of interest to go unchallenged
- Use official resources to promote radical political networks
- Establish polling locations at sites tied to designated networks and then campaign on the partisan result
- Attack efforts to strengthen election transparency and ballot secrecy

These are not isolated mistakes. They are the predictable result of one-party rule with no checks and balances.

Barry Wernick will serve as an independent watchdog with zero conflicts of interest and no radical associations. He will fight for transparency, accountability, and putting the people of District 2 first.

In 1776 we fought to be citizens, not subjects.

Full evidence: sadandblueindistrict2.com/evidence