

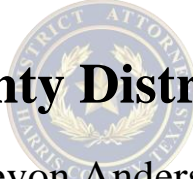
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DA Announces Success with Capital Murder Project Court

***Capital Murder Project Court helps move old cases
through the criminal justice system faster***

District Attorney Devon Anderson announced today that in its first year of implementation, the Capital Murder Project Court has reduced the number of older capital murder cases awaiting resolution. At the beginning of this project, the median age of cases was 3.5 years old, now the median age of cases is 1.5 years old.

The Capital Murder Project Court is an initiative where judges and prosecutors focus on the capital murder caseload. The initiative began in September 2013, when there were more than 200 non-death capital murder cases pending. From September 1, 2013, to September 30, 2014, 94 cases have been resolved in the Capital Murder Project Court.

“The Capital Murder Project Court has reduced the capital murder caseload and more importantly, has ensured that families of victims receive closure and justice sooner,” said DA Anderson. “I am proud of the prosecutors who have worked diligently on these cases.”

The oldest case on the Capital Murder Project Court docket was 6 years old. In that case, the defendant, Jorge Amezcua, (case #1189721) fatally shot a husband and a wife in their Pasadena home. Amezcua also shot their teenage son, who survived. Amezcua was tried and convicted in August of this year. He was sentenced to life without parole. Assistant District Attorney Donna Logan handled the case.