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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Dallas County District Attorney's Office Reaffirms Guilt of Convicted Sex Offender Darryl Goggans through Post-Conviction DNA Testing**

(DALLAS – September 21, 2007) – Today the Dallas County District Attorney's Office announces that the post-conviction DNA test results in the case of the *State vs. Darryl Patrick Goggans*, reaffirms his guilt of aggravated sexual assault on a woman who at the time worked at a local apartment complex and was showing Mr. Goggans a vacant apartment when he attacked her. Goggans, who was convicted of the felony offense in 1990 and sentenced to 50 years in prison (which was later reduced to 20 years), filed a formal motion for DNA testing in October of 2003 in accordance with a state law passed in 2001 allowing convicted felons to apply for DNA testing.

“The results in Goggans' case, is yet another example of the benefits of post-conviction DNA testing as it reaffirms guilt just as much as it proves innocence,” said Dallas County District Attorney Craig Watkins. “Goggans is undoubtedly one of those inmates who thought he would slip through the system in hopes of getting results that would be favorable to him, but as we are all aware, a person's DNA is like his or her own genetic blueprint — it is unique and therefore, does not lie.”

In 2006, the Dallas County District Attorney's Office responded to Mr. Goggans' motion and requested that testing be denied on the basis that identity was not at issue because his fingerprint was found at the scene and because he had pawned items identical to items taken from the victim. The trial court denied DNA testing.

Goggans appealed the trial court's decision, and the Dallas Court of Appeals, in its opinion, held that identity was at issue in the case. Consequently, the Dallas Court of Appeals reversed and remanded the case back to the trial court. Upon remand, the District Attorney's Office agreed that Goggans was entitled to DNA testing in light of the Dallas Court of Appeals' ruling on identity because the other two factors for testing were met — there was DNA evidence available to test and testing of the sexual assault kit could serve to prove his innocence. The trial court therefore, ordered the Department of Public Safety

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(DPS) to conduct post-conviction DNA testing. According to the DNA test results, DPS concluded to a reasonable degree of scientific certainty that Mr. Goggans was the source of the sperm cell fraction collected on the sexual assault kit swab.

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