



**CRAIG WATKINS**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**District Attorney Craig Watkins Luncheon Keynote Speaker at  
First National Black-Brown Summit**

*Conference hosted by LULAC and NAACP addresses criminal justice, re-entry and recidivism*

**(DALLAS – August 17, 2007)** – Dallas County District Attorney Craig Watkins will deliver the keynote address at the first national Black-Brown Summit luncheon on Monday, August 20, 2007, at noon at the Adam’s Mark Hotel located at 400 Olive Street, Dallas, Texas 75201. The national Black-Brown Summit is a conference hosted by the national offices of LULAC (League of United Latin American Citizens) and the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) to address the issues of disproportionate representation in the criminal justice system, re-entry and recidivism.

“Addressing how low-level, non-violent criminals re-enter society once they have been released from prison and come back to live in our neighborhoods is a major issue that impacts the crime and recidivism rates in Dallas County,” said Dallas County District Attorney Craig Watkins. “We can either just lock people up with no rehabilitative measures in place in the criminal justice system so these offenders only learn to be smarter, stronger, more dangerous criminals while in prison, or we can put programs in place so that criminals who lack a high school education or marketable skill will be required to get one before they are released, making them less likely to reoffend if they don’t have to resort to crime to survive.”

More than 600,000 offenders are released from prison each year with nearly 80% being released to parole supervision. Society is paying a huge economic and social cost, as studies show, the vast majority of offenders return to prison, within a three-year period from their release.

The first National Black-Brown Summit on Re-entry and Recidivism will be held August 19-22, 2007, at the Adam’s Mark Hotel in Dallas. For more information on the conference, please log on to [www.black-browns Summit.org](http://www.black-browns Summit.org) or call 214-655-8181.

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