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For Immediate Release

DISTRICT ATTORNEY DAVID PRATER'S STATEMENT REGARDING THE
OKLAHOMA COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS' DECISION IN THE
AARON LAMAR FORT CASE

"I have reviewed the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals' Opinion handed down today in OCCA Case# F-2020-659, Aaron Fort v. State of Oklahoma. Considering the specific facts of the Fort matter, I respect the decision by the Court and completely agree with their rationale and conclusions.

In consideration of the facts and circumstances of Mr. Fort's criminal case, the State of Oklahoma did not object to, nor did the State contest Mr. Fort's request for a new trial based on his judicial bias claim. The State agreed that Mr. Fort should be granted relief.

The goal of our criminal justice system is that justice will prevail in all matters. Justice relies on all participants in the criminal justice system to be focused on the protection of the constitutional rights of everyone involved. When rights are not protected and laws are not followed, justice fails. Mr. Fort deserves a fair trial; and with the decision by the Court today, he will receive one. When the Court's Mandate is filed, the Oklahoma County District Attorney's office will be prepared to re-try Mr. Fort."

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