

Austin, TX 78701 (737) 667-9200 TexasRightToLife.com

June 27th, 2022

District Attorney John Creuzot LB 19 Frank Crowley Courts Building 133 N Riverfront Blvd Dallas, TX 75207

Chief of Police Edgardo Garcia 1400 Botham Jean Blvd Dallas, TX 75215

District Attorney John Creuzot & Chief of Police Edgardo Garcia,

We write to inform you that we have documented reasons to believe that <u>Aaron Women's Center (Northpark Medical Group)</u> (8363 Meadow Rd., Dallas, Texas 75231) is in violation of current Texas laws regarding abortion.

On June 24, 2022, the Supreme Court of the United States announced a decision in <u>Dobbs v.</u> <u>Jackson Women's Health Organization</u> that overturned the 1973 decision of <u>Roe v. Wade</u> and the 1992 decision of <u>Planned Parenthood v. Casey</u>. Because these two earlier cases had fabricated a constitutional right to abortion, individual states were not permitted to create or enforce bans or significant limits on abortion while those particular court rulings were in effect. The Supreme Court's decision in <u>Dobbs</u> immediately allows states to set their own policies governing abortion.

Like many other states, Texas has passed a "trigger law," a total ban on abortion that takes effect 30 days after the judgment overturning *Roe* is made. However, Texas never repealed its pre-*Roe* abortion laws that existed before 1973. These statutes were rendered unenforceable by the *Roe* decision but were never repealed. This means that in Texas, once *Roe* was overruled, those statutes became immediately effective again. Thus, beginning on Friday, June 24, committing an abortion within our state is a criminal activity. Texas Attorney General Paxton reaffirmed and explained this in an advisory released on June 24:

"What's more, some prosecutors may choose to immediately pursue criminal prosecutions based on violations of Texas abortion prohibitions predating Roe that were

¹ H.B. 1280, 87th Legislature, Regular Session



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never repealed by the Texas Legislature. Although these statutes were unenforceable while Roe was on the books, they are still Texas law. Under these pre-Roe statutes abortion providers could be criminally liable for providing abortions starting today."²

The pre-*Roe* law required that any person who performs an abortion or administers a drug to cause an abortion shall face 2-5 years in prison.³ The law also states that anyone who "furnishes the means for procuring an abortion" is guilty as an accomplice.⁴ Performing an abortion and furnishing the means for abortion are now criminal acts according to effective Texas law.

While most abortion clinics, including all Planned Parenthood facilities, acknowledged the existence and validity of the pre-*Roe* law and ceased operation immediately, **we have recordings of a phone call proving that this abortion clinic within Dallas county may still be performing abortions today.** Aaron Women's Center (Northpark Medical Group) in Dallas offered to schedule abortion appointments on June 27, after the *Dobbs* opinion was released.

This is a violation of an active state law. As District Attorney and Chief of Police, it is your duty to uphold the law and investigate crimes occurring in Dallas County. We urge you and your offices to investigate this abortion clinic to ensure that the law is being followed to its fullest extent.

If you would like more information about these accusations, including recordings of this phone conversation, please contact me directly at

Dr. John Seago President Texas Right to Life

² Ken Paxton, Attorney General of Texas: ADVISORY ON TEXAS LAW UPON REVERSAL OF *ROE V. WADE*, June 24, 2022: https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/sites/default/files/images/executive-management/Post-Roe%20Advisory.pdf

³ Tex. Rev. Civ. Stats. Ann. Art. 4512.1 ("Abortion"), previously codified at Tex. Pen. Code art. 1191 (1925).

⁴ Tex. Rev. Civ. Stats. Ann. Art. 4512.2. ("Furnishing the means"), previously codified at Tex. Pen. Code art. 1192 (1925).



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District Attorney Kim Ogg 500 Jefferson Street, Suite #600 Houston, TX 77002

Chief of Police Troy Finner 1200 Travis Street Houston, TX 77002

District Attorney Kim Ogg & Chief of Police Troy Finner,

We write to inform you that we have documented reasons to believe that <u>Suburban Women's Clinic of Southwest Houston</u> (3101 Richmond Ave. Suite 250, Houston, Texas 77098) and <u>Suburban Women's Medical Center of Northwest Houston</u> (17070 Red Oak Dr. Suite 509, Houston, Texas 77090) are both in violation of current Texas laws regarding abortion.

On June 24, 2022, the Supreme Court of the United States announced a decision in <u>Dobbs v.</u> <u>Jackson Women's Health Organization</u> that overturned the 1973 decision of <u>Roe v. Wade</u> and the 1992 decision of <u>Planned Parenthood v. Casey</u>. Because these two earlier cases had fabricated a constitutional right to abortion, individual states were not permitted to create or enforce bans or significant limits on abortion while those particular court rulings were in effect. The Supreme Court's decision in <u>Dobbs</u> immediately allows states to set their own policies governing abortion.

Like many other states, Texas has passed a "trigger law," a total ban on abortion that takes effect 30 days after the judgment overturning *Roe* is made. However, Texas never repealed its pre-*Roe* abortion laws that existed before 1973. These statutes were rendered unenforceable by the *Roe* decision but were never repealed. This means that in Texas, once *Roe* was overruled, those statutes became immediately effective again. Thus, beginning on Friday, June 24, committing an abortion within our state is a criminal activity. Texas Attorney General Paxton reaffirmed and explained this in an advisory released on June 24:

"What's more, some prosecutors may choose to immediately pursue criminal prosecutions based on violations of Texas abortion prohibitions predating Roe that were never repealed by the Texas Legislature. Although these statutes were unenforceable

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while Roe was on the books, they are still Texas law. Under these pre-Roe statutes abortion providers could be criminally liable for providing abortions starting today."²

The pre-*Roe* law required that any person who performs an abortion or administers a drug to cause an abortion shall face 2-5 years in prison.³ The law also states that anyone who "furnishes the means for procuring an abortion" is guilty as an accomplice.⁴ Performing an abortion and furnishing the means for abortion are now criminal acts according to effective Texas law.

While most abortion clinics, including all Planned Parenthood facilities, acknowledged the existence and validity of the pre-*Roe* law and ceased operations immediately, we have recordings of phone calls proving that two abortion clinics within Harris County were performing abortions after the decision on Friday, and may still be performing abortions today. Suburban Women's Clinic of Southwest Houston and Suburban Women's Medical Center of Northwest Houston both offered to schedule abortion appointments on June 24, after the *Dobbs* opinion was released. Suburban Women's Clinic of Southwest Houston also offered to schedule an appointment on the morning of June 27.

This is a violation of an active state law. As District Attorney and Chief of Police, it is your duty to uphold the law and investigate crimes occurring in Harris County and Houston. We urge you and your offices to investigate these two abortion clinics to ensure that the law is being followed to its fullest extent.

If you would like more i	information abou	it these ac	ccusations, i	including re	ecordings o	of these _l	phone
conversations, please co	ontact me directly	at					

Dr. John Seago President Texas Right to Life

² Ken Paxton, Attorney General of Texas: ADVISORY ON TEXAS LAW UPON REVERSAL OF *ROE V. WADE*, June 24, 2022: https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/sites/default/files/images/executive-management/Post-Roe%20Advisory.pdf

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