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CLEAT supports Port Arthur Police Association against Chief of Police

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AUSTIN, TEXAS – Today the Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Texas joins in support of its local affiliate the Port Arthur Police Association in its recent condemnation of Police Chief Patrick Melvin.

Earlier this week the Port Arthur Police Association announced results of a vote of No Confidence by union members there.

“Police officers are hardworking, slow to wrath and are focused on protecting the families, homes and businesses of the people of Port Arthur, Texas,” said Charley Wilkison, Executive Director of the Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Texas. “85% of rank and file officers have voted to send the strongest possible message to local elected leaders that they are unhappy with the overall direction of the police department.”

It is highly unusual in Texas for a law enforcement association to take such a step.

“Our officers focus is always about protecting the citizens and conducting themselves in a professional manner,” stated Wilkison. “It takes a lot of mismanagement and misuse of position for officers to take such a bold step.”

“Believe it or not, Chief Patrick Melvin has bosses too and they are the elected members of the city council. The mayor and council should be very alarmed and concerned that this negative atmosphere exists inside the police department. The goal of the elected leaders should be to create an atmosphere inside Port Arthur PD where officers do not feel under attack from their own leader.”

“We strongly support this action our local members and we look forward to its quick resolution,” said Wilkison.

The Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Texas represents about 226 officers at Port Arthur PD and 22,000+ members statewide. CLEAT is the largest law enforcement union in Texas.

