

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

January 14, 2025 Reference: Arrests made during Commissioners Court meeting

On Tuesday, January 14, 2025, during the regularly scheduled Commissioner's Court meeting at 100 E. Weatherford St in Fort Worth, two people were arrested for disrupting the court proceedings.

Charlie Hermes, a Tarrant County resident, made an outburst at the beginning of the meeting, prompting Tarrant County Judge Tim O'Hare to issue a warning that any more outbursts would be met with immediate removal from the courtroom.

Hermes disregarded the warning and made additional comments that disrupted the meeting. Subsequently, he was removed from the courtroom. He has been charged with Disrupting a Public Meeting and is being held in the Tarrant County Jail.

During a separate confrontation, Manuel Mata, also of Tarrant County, began recording the argument with his cell phone. He aggressively demanded the names and badge numbers of the deputies that were present. He continued his disorderly behavior to the point that the court had to be shut down. As a result, he was arrested and charged with Disorderly Conduct and is currently being held in the Tarrant County Jail.

"Commissioners Court has an official decorum that individuals must follow while attending Court," said Sheriff Bill Waybourn. Public comment is welcomed, but it must be limited to the posted agenda, the business of the County and must be made at the appropriate time. We are always respectful to our citizens who attend our meetings, but we do require they follow the rules and return the same respect."

