

Jill Glover, SD 12
Sue Evenwell, SD 1
Pastor Stephen Broden, SD 23
Allison Winter, SD 4
Deon Starnes, SD 30
Tanya Robertson, SD 11

Susan Fountain, SD 16
Robert Kecseg, SD 1
Leslie Thomas, SD 23
Walter West, SD 4
Terri Wilson, SD 7
Randall Dunning, SD16

Republican Party of Texas, State Executive Committeemembers
May 5, 2020

The Honorable Greg Abbott
Governor of the State of Texas

The Honorable Ken Paxton
Attorney General of the State of Texas
Austin, Texas

Dear Governor Abbott and General Paxton,

It is indeed with a heavy heart that we write to you as we have all been stripped of several of our constitutional rights and dignity the past two months. Today, we have seen justice denied to Shelley Luther, a self-employed hairdresser, desperate to support herself and her family, She was targeted for having the audacity to defy the mandatory closing of her hair salon in Dallas. Shelley initially complied with Dallas County's order to close for 7 weeks. She then realized that she could safely re-open and comply with CDC guidelines and those of the salon industry, ensuring a safe experience for employees and customers. She reopened her salon earlier than your orders, incurring a citation and the wrath of Civil District Judge Eric Moye, to whose courtroom her case was assigned.

She was denied her constitutional right to appeal, was immediately sentenced to jail along with a \$7,000 fine, and deprived of being released on her own recognizance for this petty infraction. Even a two-bit drug dealer is allowed bail to be set pending appeal. Defiance from Ms. Luther speaks volumes, as she refused to grovel in front of Judge Moye as he demanded, in exchange for a reduction of this unfair sentence.

If this is justice in Texas, we are certainly doomed to our liberties deteriorating on a downward trend. As Republicans, how can we hope to hold Texas under these circumstances?

We hereby call upon you, Governor Abbott, to restore justice and fairness to the State of Texas by the immediate pardon and release of Ms. Luther.

Respectfully submitted,
Members of the Executive Committee
Republican Party of Texas