Our hearts are broken.
For the dead and wounded Dallas officers.
For their loved ones, friends and colleagues.
And for the Dallas Police Department, which has often gotten it right in this ugly time of national tensions between law enforcement and their African-American constituents.

A peaceful protest in downtown Dallas on Thursday night, planned to mark police shootings in other cities, morphed into a horrific sniper ambush on the men and women sworn to protect the protesters.

These were police officers who had earlier posed for photos with the demonstrators, shaken their hands and provided security for their rally. Throughout the evening, mutual respect was visible between the two groups.

These were the police officers who, when shooting broke out from high above them, tried to make sure protesters got out of danger.

These were the officers who then did what law enforcement heroes always do — they rushed toward the source of danger to try to stop its perpetrators.

Along the way, they picked up their fallen colleagues, both DPD and DART officers.

It was a night of horror unlike any in recent memory in this city. Conflicting accounts of suspects. Reports of a possible bomb. And a death toll that slowly rose into the night.

In these first hours of mind-numbing tragedy, what’s most important is that we focus on those police officers and their families. In whatever manner you deem most appropriate, send comfort, prayers and well wishes to them all.

Likewise, let us all try to keep our grief from morphing into toxic anger. No doubt several evil people set out to do great harm by opening fire on those sworn to protect us.
Mayor Mike Rawlings’ assessment was tragically correct: “Our worst nightmare happened.”

Now we must wake up and unite. If we lead with anger, nobody wins. Only love defeats hate.
**Snipers kill 4 officers**

**Dallas unites in horror, in grief**

**Anger but peace before chaos erupted**

---

**Dallas Morning News**

**AMBUSH IN DALLAS**

The shooting over the weekend of July 7-8, 2016, at the Dallas police headquarters was the deadliest event in American police history. Eight police officers, including two civilians, were killed, and several others were injured. The shooting took place near the grounds of the Dallas Police Department, where a rally was being held in support of police reform.

The shooting was followed by a day of violence and unrest in the city. Protesters gathered in downtown Dallas to demand justice for the fallen officers and for police reform.

---

**Dallas Morning News**

**Dallas unites in horror, in grief**

---

**Dallas Morning News**

**CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS**

---

**Dallas Morning News**

**TELEVISION EDITIONS**

---

**Dallas Morning News**

**Contact the newspaper**

---

**Dallas Morning News**

**Subscribe to the newspaper**

---

**Dallas Morning News**

**Manage your account**

---

**Dallas Morning News**

**Buy an ad**

---

**Dallas Morning News**

**Wedding in engagements**

---

**Dallas Morning News**

**Wedding in engagements**

---

**Dallas Morning News**

**Corrections & clarifications**

---

**Dallas Morning News**

**Amidst chaos, Dallas unites in horror, in grief**

---

**Dallas Morning News**

**Corrections & clarifications**

---

**Dallas Morning News**

**Amidst chaos, Dallas unites in horror, in grief**

---

**Dallas Morning News**
Our hearts are broken.

For the dead and wounded Dallas officers.

For their loved ones, friends and colleagues.
This city, our city,
has been tested before. Now we face a new test.

July 10, 2016

More than 50 years ago, madness struck like a lightning bolt and cut down our nation’s president, leaving shadows that lingered for generations. We rebounded, but slowly. We eventually remade our city into one all but unrecognizable to anyone alive in 1963.

Thursday night, another kind of lightning flashed across our horizon and plunged our city into a new kind of grief — and brought fear back to the place we call home.

The shocking slaying of five police officers, and the shooting of seven others, plus two civilians, has left this city stunned.

We’ve asked, all of us, why us? Why this city? Why these officers? Why now?

And we are surely not alone in asking, as our hearts break, what kind of country are we creating where such violence has become so frequent?

A country where hundreds of North Texans are driven to our downtown streets to peacefully protest police violence. Where a man could grow so bitter with rage that he gunned down a dozen police officers he’d probably never seen before.

Here in Dallas, we have not found answers that satisfy. Perhaps there are none.

Dallas is a proud city. Although it is not a new city, it still feels unfinished, like a young adult still holding out for a late growth spurt.

That sense of continuous change makes sense to us because we live in a place of new beginnings, of immigrants, and of job seekers. A place of friendly greetings and big ambitions, where the next new opportunity seems just around the corner.

But there is another truth about Dallas. We live together, but we do not often understand one another. This is because of class, sometimes geography and often race.
We are not unique in this. Americans are living beside one another without understanding one another all over the country.

But in Dallas, rigid boundaries seem more pronounced. Few Dallasites in the north venture south across the river that divides our city nearly in half. This chasm has made it easier to avoid uncomfortable truths, to make nice, to paper over fundamental inequities.

Thursday night’s events have summoned us, unbidden, to examine the consequences of knowing so little about life on the other side of these boundaries. Across America, our countrymen and women will be watching what we do in the weeks and months ahead.

**Where to begin?**

It’s time to put aside, for now, pronouncements about what is right and who is wrong. To push past the politics of race and anger and to put the presidential election out of our hearing for a brief moment.

We must learn to listen and feel what it is like to live in Dallas, across divides. We need to understand that it’s not the same for a black teenager in South Dallas to walk home late on a Friday and see a police cruiser roll by as it is for somebody else in another part of town.

We need to understand the challenges implicit in donning a police uniform in this vast and conflicted city. The bravery and sacrifice – and the fear.

There will be time later for anger and for justice — anger whose purpose is served in justice. But for now we need to learn to understand each other, to really hear one another, to learn from each other.

Today our country seems capable of pulling apart in ways that have not seemed possible in many decades. Dallas, again, has been bathed in blood and grief. How we respond will help show a path forward to a divided, reeling nation.
More than 50 years ago, madness struck like a lightning bolt and cut down our nation’s president, leaving shadows that lingered for generations. We rebounded, but slowly. We eventually remade our city into one but never reversible to anyone alive in 1963.

Thursday night, another kind of lightning flashed across our horizon and plunged our city into a new kind of grief — and brought fear back to the place we call home.

The shocking slaying of five police officers, and the shooting of seven others, plus two civilians, has left this city stunned. We’ve asked, all of us, why? Why this city? Why these officers? Why now?

And we are simply not alone in asking, as our hearts break, what kind of country are we creating where such violence has become so frequent?

A country where hundreds of North Texans are driven to our downtown streets to peacefully protest police violence. Where a man could grow so bitter with rage that he gunned down a dozen police officers he’d probably never seen before.

Here in Dallas, we have not found answers that satisfy. Perhaps there are none.

Dallas is a proud city. Although it is not a new city, it still feels unfinished, like a young adult still looking out for a late growth spurt.

That sense of continuous change makes sense to us because we live in a place of new beginnings, of immigrants, and of job seekers. A place of daily progress and big ambitions, where the next new opportunity seems just around the corner.

But there is another truth about Dallas. We live together, but we do not often understand one another. This is because of class, sometimes geography and often race.

No, we are not unique in this. Americans are living beside one another without understanding one another all over the country.

But in Dallas, rigid boundaries seem more pronounced. Few Dallasites in the north venture south across the river that divides our city nearly in half. This羞恥 makes it easier to avoid uncomfortable truths, to make nice, to paper over fundamental inequities.

Thursday night’s events have reminds us, unhindered, to examine the consequences of living in Dallas on the other side of these boundaries. Across America, our countrymen and women will be searching what we do in the weeks and months ahead.

Where to begin?

It’s time to put aside, for now, pronouncements about what is right and who is wrong. To push past the politics of race and anger and to put the presidential election out of our hearing for a brief moment.

We must learn to listen and feel what it is like to live in Dallas, across divides. We need to understand that it’s not the same for a black teenager in South Dallas to walk home late on a Friday and see a police cruiser roll by as it is for somebody else in another part of town.

We need to understand the challenges implicit in donning a police uniform in this vast and conflicted city. The bravery and sacrifice — and the fear.

There will be time later for anger and for justice — anger whose purpose is served in justice. But for now we need to learn to understand each other, to really hear one another, to learn from each other.

Today our country seems capable of pulling apart in ways that have not seemed possible in many decades. Dallas, again, has been bathed in blood and grief. How we respond will help show a path forward to a divided, reeling nation.

Illustration by Michael Hogue/Staff Artist
Editorial: This city, our city

Michael Hogue/Staff illustration

This city, our city, has been tested before. Now we face a new test.

URL: ‘This City, Our City’
Username: contests@dallasnews.com / Password: dmnContests17
Hail to the Chief’s Wisdom

City, county and schools must step up to solve problems

Editorial

July 15, 2016

Dallas police Chief David Brown’s opening remarks from Monday’s news conference deserve our fullest attention:

“We’re asking cops to do too much in this country. We are. We’re just asking us to do too much. Every societal failure, we put it off on the cops to solve.

“Not enough mental health funding. Let the cop handle it. Not enough drug addiction funding. Let’s give it to the cops.

“Here in Dallas we’ve got a loose dog problem. Let’s have the cops chase loose dogs.

“Schools fail. Give it to the cops. Seventy percent of the African-American community is being raised by single women. Let’s give it to the cops to solve that as well.

“That’s too much to ask. Policing was never meant to solve all those problems.

“I’d just ask for other parts of our democracy, along with the free press, to help us. To help us and not put that burden all on law enforcement to resolve.”

Brown’s words resonated across the nation as he voiced a most uncomfortable truth: First responders are too often the last defense against society’s most pernicious problems.

Here in Dallas, we must answer Brown’s call by looking for ways to address the undue burden that our police shoulder.

In the aftermath of the deadly July 7 ambush, residents have awakened to a fuller picture of what is involved in policing. While it’s understandable that some will think money is the answer, public safety already accounts for about 60 percent of the city’s budget.

So as we move into finding practical solutions that will help police focus more energy on crime-fighting, three institutions need to step up:
Addressing any deficiencies at Dallas City Hall is a good starting place. The council must find the right city manager to set a tough tone of accountability throughout every department. Incompetence and policy failure — whether related to loose dogs or the homeless — must not be “fixed” by sloughing problems off to the police.

Retiring City Manager A.C. Gonzalez’s decision in May to lean heavily on the police force to fix a broken Dallas Animal Services is a sad example of such a workaround. Rather than hold animal services director Jody Jones responsible, Gonzalez turned to Brown to find solutions.

Dallas County also needs to be at the table to make sure everything possible is being done in regard to mental health challenges. Too often, dealing with these most vulnerable residents falls to the cops.

The county also may be able to help more with the reality of recidivism: A recent study showed that nearly half of Dallas County inmates are arrested again within three years of their release. What more can be done to better help these men and women turn their lives around?

Dallas ISD also can play a bigger role in changing lives for the better. Not only is DISD on the front lines with parents, it should more aggressively push forward options, such as its choice schools, designed to create socioeconomically and racially diverse campuses. Additionally, the possible retooling of the district’s traditional discipline methods could be a game-changer.

We too often turn in desperation to the police, even as we know this court-of-last-resort governance is barely a short-term fix. It’s time we try something new: Call on our leaders to do the right thing — not the expedient one.
Hail to the Chief’s Wisdom

City, county and schools must step up to solve problems

Dallas police Chief David Brown is opening new doors to the public. He is just asking to do the task.

‘Not enough’ mental-health funding. Let’s fix this now.

By THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

Out of Order

Public school can’t be hurry to justice’s political views

W

The morning rush on heels, Supreme Court justice settles an argument now decide if you were to live in their

byustin castanedo

letters

Letters

The debate over closing a city’s budget.

Saturday, Administration.

1,000 percent.

He is just asking to do the task.

Instead, let’s fix this now.

not enough’ mental-health funding. Let’s fix this now.

not enough’ mental-health funding. Let’s fix this now.

the city’s budget.

at work and public safety already accounts for about 60 percent of

at work.

at work.

the city’s budget.

at work.

the city’s budget.

at work.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.

the city’s budget.
Dallas Police Chief David Brown’s opening remarks from Monday’s news conference deserve our fullest attention:

"We're asking cops to do too much in this country. We are. We're just asking us to do too much. Every societal failure, we put it off on the cops to solve."
The healing in Dallas has begun, but it will not come quickly. We are just now beginning to peer up from our grief, look one another in the eye and ask how our city, how we ourselves, will be shaped by last month’s tragedy.

The events of July 7 have marked us, probably forever. But beyond the malevolent milestone itself etching its way into our memories, how we respond will also mark us. Will we draw closer to one another? Or will we seek safety by erecting more barriers?

History in this city is overrun, as it is everywhere, with examples of deep hurts being patched up and then mostly ignored. So we do not presume to predict with certainly that we will make the most of this opportunity for healing.

But already there are hopeful signs that we will. Across Dallas, in our churches, homes and workplaces, the conversations have begun. Most started with grief over the five slain police officers, as is right. But in many corners of the city, they have not ended there.

This newspaper and other civic groups in Dallas have helped spring to life a movement we hope takes root. Under the banner of Actions Speak Louder, some 200 residents gathered at El Centro College to begin asking one another uncomfortable questions.

The crowd was challenged: Do we really understand what drew so many of us to the city’s downtown streets that Friday night in the first place? What was it about the police violence in Baton Rouge and Minneapolis that so resonated with residents here that nearly 1,000 of us felt compelled to protest?

There were no simple answers. And one lesson from Friday was that the best way to foster understanding about the root causes of racial strife is for each of us — no matter our race or jobs or bank account — to listen to our neighbors tell us their own stories about race in North Texas. And to have the courage to tell our own. We’re often telling very different stories.
On Aug. 25, the Actions Speak Louder effort will host another, larger gathering at the Dallas Public Library downtown. The push is to translate our grief into resolve, our ideas into action.

One action we hope can come of this is that we all develop and share strategies for how to tell our stories, our city’s stories, without varnish. We do not seek to dwell on injustices or the past. But in places where they have been inadequately aired, the wounds have been left to fester.

There can be no healing without the pain of the lanced blister or of the removal of old bandages. And there is no justice without truth.
**Honor Family’s Sacrifice**

Is nothing too offensive for Trump, his supporters?

S sometimes it takes people like Khizr and Ghazala Khan who don’t think American stories for granted to remind us what this country is supposed to honor and respect.

It is disturbing that Donald Trump is unable to graciously recognize the sacrifice of the Khan family in his defense of his fellow soldiers. Rather than acknowledge the sacrifice, he chose to trivialize it.

The Kanzhans, from Dallas, lost their son Humayun Khan, 26, who was killed in Iraq while serving in the U.S. Army on June 16, 2011. Trump went on CNN October 28 and said, “I’ve never met the family. I don’t know them.”

Trump’s statement. He should not assume that everyone is ignorant of the facts of the case.

The gravesite of U.S. Army Capt. Humayun Khan, the first Khan family member to die in the Iraq War, is left to fester.

The president of the U.S. Army Reserve Command and the National Guard Bureau may have to deal with the Khan family’s anger.

The Department of Defense is supposed to honor and respect all service members, especially those who have died.

According to pollsters and experts, the fact is that even 40% of those who identify as Republicans feel that Trump would be able to graciously recognize the sacrifice of the Khan family.

The Dallas Morning News responds to this situation by saying that Trump should be held accountable for his words and actions.

John A. Rector Jr.

Texas, August 2, 2016

**LETTERS**

Sitting ducks for rhetoric

William Shakespeare said, “All the world’s a stage.”

So it is with the Republican presidential nominee, who has been ruthless in his attacks on his opponents.

Trump’s attacks on Hillary Clinton are in the same vein. His campaign has been characterized by its lack of civility and respect for others.

The Dallas Morning News welcomes productive dialogue and encourages respectful discourse.

Joe M. Dealey

Dallas Morning News

**Sitting for rhetoric.**

To the editor: I have not been a supporter of Hillary Clinton.

However, I do not agree with Trump’s comments about her qualifications.

In my opinion, Clinton is a strong and capable candidate who has the experience necessary to lead this country.

I believe that we need to come together as a nation and work towards a better future.

Sandra Pendergraph, Dallas

**Open the conversation**

To the editor: I would like to respond to the comments made in the previous letter.

Trump’s attacks on Clinton are not productive. They are designed to divide and distract.

We need to focus on issues that affect all Americans and work towards solutions.

Thank you for allowing us to express our views.

Patricia Johnson, McKinney
The healing in Dallas has begun, but it will not come quickly. We are just now beginning to peer up from our grief, look one another in the eye and ask how our city, how we ourselves, will be shaped by last month's tragedy.
Two months after an ambush left five Dallas officers dead and 11 others wounded, the public remains in the dark about too many aspects of the violence and its aftermath. Any shootings involving officers warrant close scrutiny. But this tragedy rocked the nation, threatened to undermine the Black Lives Matter movement, and prompted a big-city police chief to take the rare step of using an explosives-strapped robot to kill the shooter. The intense interest in and influence of this case demand that even more information be made available.

There simply are too many questions yet to be fully addressed: Was Micah Johnson on drugs when he opened fire on officers? How did his negotiations with police go in the moments before Chief David Brown authorized tactical officers to send in a robot to kill him? Do the journals that police discovered at Johnson’s home offer any clues about his mental state or motivations? That’s just a start.

The public, which extends far beyond the citizens of Dallas, deserves answers.

But the Dallas Police Department has released virtually no new information that can shed light on what happened July 7. Citing an ongoing criminal investigation, the department also has instructed other agencies involved to not release records.

Even media requests for official autopsy reports were rebuffed.

Brown’s department is leaning on a state law that affords it discretion to keep certain records under wraps during an investigation. Discretionary is the key word.

But how is the public interest served by this veil of secrecy? A department that was greeted with unwavering public support in the wake of this tragedy simply can’t lose sight of the big picture.

Accountability and transparency matter at all times, not just when it’s convenient or politically expedient — for Brown or his department.
But from the early days after the ambush, Brown made clear that he resented questions about his decision to use an explosive device to kill Johnson. He argued that only someone facing the responsibility of keeping other officers safe could understand that decision.

We respect the incredible challenge Brown faced the night of July 7, and the pressure he was under to save lives. We’ve applauded the way he and his department handled the situation. But no one’s actions are beyond critique. Now, after the fog of that conflict has started to settle, is exactly the time for all the pertinent facts to be known, for calculations to be assessed.

Such questions aren’t a sign of disrespect, or a hint of mistrust; they’re integral to a working democracy. That’s why we urge the department to release all the information it can now.

Keeping the public informed is how trust in any organization, especially one as inherently powerful as the police department, is maintained.

**Dallas police deny access**

Here’s a sampling of information *The Dallas Morning News* has requested that has been denied or blocked by the Dallas Police Department:

- Transcripts and recordings of the negotiations with Micah Johnson
- All camera and surveillance footage of the July 7 incident
- All Dallas Area Rapid Transit police reports related to the shooting
- Medical examiner’s autopsy and investigative report
EDITORIALS

Oklahoma Shakes, Texas Waits

The Public Deserves Answers

DPD must stop sitting on information about ambush

Two months after an ambush left the Dal-

las police officer dead and 11 others wounded,

we can't help but wonder if Texas citizens have

been left in the dark about the investigative

process. So far, no one has suggested that there

might be more information to release.

Texas law does not require that the public

be informed about investigations unless

officers are killed. And even then, law enforce-

ment agencies are not required to make full

disclosures.

But the Dallas police department has re-

tained crucial information on the attack that

left five police officers dead and seven others

wounded. The public deserves to know what

happened and how the investigation is prog-

ressing.

The Dallas Morning News

Associate editor

Texas law does not require that the public

be informed about investigations unless

officers are killed. And even then, law enforce-

ment agencies are not required to make full

disclosures.

But the Dallas police department has re-

tained crucial information on the attack that

left five police officers dead and seven others

wounded. The public deserves to know what

happened and how the investigation is prog-

ressing.

The Dallas Morning News

Associate editor

Texas law does not require that the public

be informed about investigations unless

officers are killed. And even then, law enforce-

ment agencies are not required to make full

disclosures.

But the Dallas police department has re-

tained crucial information on the attack that

left five police officers dead and seven others

wounded. The public deserves to know what

happened and how the investigation is prog-

ressing.

The Dallas Morning News

Associate editor

Texas law does not require that the public

be informed about investigations unless

officers are killed. And even then, law enforce-

ment agencies are not required to make full

disclosures.

But the Dallas police department has re-

tained crucial information on the attack that

left five police officers dead and seven others

wounded. The public deserves to know what

happened and how the investigation is prog-

ressing.

The Dallas Morning News

Associate editor

Texas law does not require that the public

be informed about investigations unless

officers are killed. And even then, law enforce-

ment agencies are not required to make full

disclosures.

But the Dallas police department has re-

tained crucial information on the attack that

left five police officers dead and seven others

wounded. The public deserves to know what

happened and how the investigation is prog-

ressing.

The Dallas Morning News

Associate editor

Texas law does not require that the public

be informed about investigations unless

officers are killed. And even then, law enforce-

ment agencies are not required to make full

disclosures.

But the Dallas police department has re-

}
Two months after an ambush left five Dallas officers dead and 11 other people wounded, the public remains in the dark about too many aspects of the violence and its aftermath.