

Michael C. Roach  
County Judge  
200 West Walker Street



Phone: 254.559.2190  
Fax: 254.559.7296  
mroach@stephenscountytexas.gov

---

## Press Release

November 2, 2023

At a special meeting on October 30, 2023, the Stephens County Commissioner's Court appointed Mary O'Dell as the Stephens County Treasurer. Upon review of that appointment, after a request came into our office and outside counsel reviewed the appointment, a conflict exists that prohibits Mrs. O'Dell from serving as an appointee of the Commissioner's Court.

Mrs. O'Dell is qualified to run for Stephens County Treasurer and serve as an elected official; however, because Eric O'Dell (Stephens County Commissioner Pct. 4) is related to Mrs. O'Dell and serves on the appointing body, she is prohibited from being appointed to fill the vacancy of Stephens County Treasurer.

The court relied on an attorney's general opinion that we interpreted as allowing the appointment; however, after reviewing that opinion and at the advice of counsel, we have to change course. Our goal is to faithfully follow the laws governing so many aspects of public service. I appreciate your understanding!

The court will take the necessary steps to rescind the appointment and appoint a treasurer during a special meeting on November 6, 2023, at 9 AM.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael C. Roach". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Michael C. Roach  
Stephens County Judge