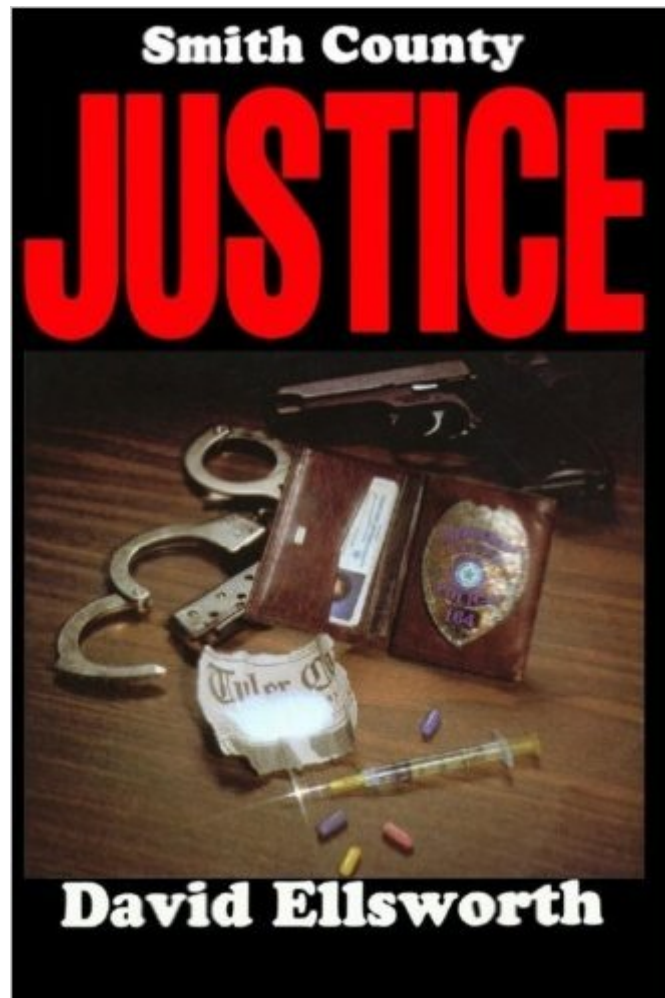


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# Smith County Justice



## Synopsis

Saul Sotow of the New York Daily Mirror called it "A masterpiece of investigative writing." Margaret Chase of the Newark Evening News said of Smith County Justice, "Not since In Cold Blood . . ."

Master literary investigator David Ellsworth unravels the tale of corruption in a Texas county and in his usual style, names names and pulls out everything under the administrative rugs. The book was touted by television's 20/20, by 20th Century Fox, Stephen J. Cannell Productions and a host of others wanting to capitalize on this magnificent work of investigative literature.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (14 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

This is a very well written book that is based on a very real, very bad ordeal that happened in my home county's recent history. I acquired an electronic copy of this book and could not put it down, not only is there many familiar, respected family's and locations scandalized in this book I quickly found myself immersed in a 1970's Tyler I am too young to have experienced. After reading a few chapters into this book you will feel like you are in Tyler even if you have never previously heard of Smith county. The only real complaint I have with this book is although the events described in this book are unfortunately true, at least a lot of it, the author makes it to clear that he has a personal prejudice against not only this county, but the entire criminal justice system itself. I found myself being forcefully pulled out of this story because of his constant broad political statements that are entirely to aggressive and blatant. Instead of telling it as if this is a neutral investigation letting the readers draw there own opinion, it is as if he decided what the system was like then found a story to perfectly illustrate his preconceived prejudice. It leads one to suspect that some aspects just too conveniently fit his view to be true. So remember when you read this book that he had a political

statement and I suspect he simply left out those parts that did not fit into the picture he was painting. This book seem more like a Micheal Moore or Dan Brown style entertain-umentry instead of a hard hitting investigative nonfiction. Nonetheless it was still a great read that shows that at times the truth is crazier than anything they can come up with in Hollywood. BTW the movie rush is based on the events in this book.

An Excellent book and well written! David Ellsworth is a great writer and this book is packed with action and suspense!! Lots of little known facts that make the book amazing!!

Well, people who haven't read the book will probably have no idea what I am talking about but I will say these things for the people that do know. First off, the book is amazing. I think that there are a great deal of facts in this non-fiction work. Although I cannot find where the author has went. I spoke and received newspaper copies from a sister-in-law of the woman Paul Woodward murdered in Austin. I have spoken to one of the author's sons. I know Willie Hardy's current address. Recently, I actually spoke to C. Matthews just the other week (April 23, 2008). So I have dug deep and spoken to some major sources for this book. Although only about 500 copies have been published (from what I've heard). I think it is definatly worth the read. I took it a bit too far and had to talk to the people involved in this mess that occured so many years ago. I know a lot more about this than anybody out there besides the actual people who were involved or maybe lived there at the time.I recommend it. I seriously do. If anybody knows where David Ellsworth is today, please have him contact me. Also, don't pay some A-HOLE \$500 PLUS dollars for the book. You can find an electronic copy on-line for free if you look hard enough. Just GOOGLE it.

Pretty much all my adult years I have heard how much better Tyler was than Longview..after reading this book...WOW..

I obtained an electronic copy of this book from wikileaks. I thought it would be an interesting read since so many people don't want this book published. The book was well written and towards the end, keeps you reading it even though you should put it down. I've heard similar stories of the justice system in various parts of the country and found this story to be believable, unfortunately. Even though I have no ties to Smith County or Texas for that matter, I still found the book riveting. You just never know when it could happen to you. If you are interested in the criminal injustice system, this book is for you.

I CANT GET ENOUGH OF IT! I CANT PUT IT DOWN, IT TAKES ME BACK TO ANOTHER TIME AND PLACE.

long but very insightful

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