

# 5th Circuit Judge: 'If We Want to Stop Mass Shootings, We Should Stop Punishing Police Officers'

✘ One of President Donald Trump's appointees to the federal bench issued a controversial opinion with a startling opening line that amounted to a ringing endorsement of law enforcement and a dire warning to its critics, **reports** CNN.

"If we want to stop mass shootings, we should stop punishing police officers who put their lives on the line to prevent them," James Ho of the New Orleans-based 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said in an opinion.

His statement came in a dissent from a denial en banc. The case involved a wrongful death suit against Kaufman County, Texas, in the officer shooting of a man who was carrying a toy pistol.

A district court dismissed the case, holding that the officers were entitled to qualified immunity, according to CNN's **Ariane de Vogue**. But a three-judge panel of the 5th Circuit sent the case back down for further proceedings.

**Read the CNN article.**