

Politics

## St. Tammany Chamber Supports Recall of Coroner

A banner for a recall petition. On the left, a circular image shows Christopher Tape, the St. Tammany Parish Coroner, with his hand raised. To the right of the image is the logo for 'FAMILY FIRST ST TAMMANY' featuring a crown icon. Below the logo, the words 'CORONER' and 'RECALL' are written in large, bold, block letters. At the bottom of the banner, there is a dark grey bar with a white envelope icon and the text 'Can Help Remove St. Tammany Coroner Christopher "Topher" Tape'. In the top right corner of the banner, there is a white hamburger menu icon on a dark grey background. In the top left corner of the banner, the text 'Recall Christopher Tape' and 'St. Tammany Parish Coroner' is displayed in white.

COVINGTON, La. — The board of directors of the St. Tammany Chamber of Commerce recently voted to endorse and support the recall of St. Tammany Parish Coroner Christopher Tape. The organization is encouraging members to support and sign the recall petition circulating throughout the parish.

“After taking office on March 25, 2024, following an election where he had no opponent, Dr. Tape decided to unilaterally discontinue the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner program which provided a first-class response system to a delicate, traumatic experience claiming it was a ‘business decision,’” wrote a chamber spokesperson. “This action followed prior allegations calling his integrity into question. The issues have become widespread, caused many parish and state elected officials to call on Dr. Tape to resign, and resulted in local and national news media coverage.”

“Our chamber board considered the information and research provided, engaged in lengthy discussions and believes it is in the business community’s best interest to support the coroner recall,” stated Chris Abadie, 2024 Chamber board chair “This coroner is responsible over both death investigations and the mental health of persons and, as such, should be held above reproach, especially in matters overseen by his office.”

“We encourage our members to sign the recall petition,” said Chamber President and CEO Lacey Osborne. “The website [RecallTape.com](http://RecallTape.com) is the best place to find locations throughout the parish to sign the petition.” The website also provides updated information about the recall effort.