

Resolution

ORDER NO. 2016-0243

DATE: March 1, 2016

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF DALLAS §



BE IT REMEMBERED, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 1st day of March, 2016 on motion made by Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, Commissioner of District 1, and seconded by Dr. Elba Garcia, Commissioner of District 4, the following Resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, The Dallas County Commissioners Court joins the nation and women from all walks of life in observance of Women's History Month for the contributions made by women everywhere to our nation's rich history. The National Women's History Month Project 2016 theme is "*Working to Form a More Perfect Union: Honoring Women in Public Service and Government*"; and

WHEREAS, Today, March 1, 2016, officially marks the beginning of Women's History Month, a month long celebration occurring every year in March to recognize women who by their actions and service to the community unified their voices against inequality and helped pave the way for future generations of women; and

WHEREAS, The public celebration of women's history began in 1978 as Women's History Week and included March 8th as International Women's Day. In 1987, Congress expanded the celebration to a month and March was declared Women's History Month. This is the month we honor and publicly celebrate women's achievements throughout the history of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the history of Dallas County, women have advocated positive change in every aspect of our society and their accomplishments continue to impact the lives of every citizen. It was in Dallas County, 1893, that the first Texas suffrage organization was formed - the Texas Equal Rights Association. In 1918, twenty-five years later, Texas women leveraged their political influence during the Governor's race, practically guaranteeing the support of women's suffrage. In 1919, Texas became the 9th state in the Union and the 1st state in the South to ratify the 19th amendment, leading the way for other conservative states to support women's right to vote and run for office; and

WHEREAS, Women's History Month presents a remarkable opportunity to honor the tenacity and spirit of women in Dallas County while at the same time honoring extraordinary women, among many, whose contributions make a significant difference today - Nellie Tafalla, Beverly Tobian, and The Honorable Annie Dickson; and

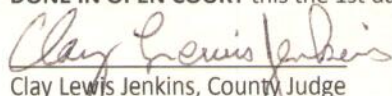
WHEREAS, Nellie Tafalla, a long-time Dallas resident and co-founder of the Dallas Mexican American Historical League, worked tirelessly to preserve and celebrate the contributions of the Hispanic community, the largest ethnic group in Dallas, to Dallas' cultural history. Mrs. Tafalla not only focused on historical preservation, she also embarked on a mission to create opportunity and break down barriers for all women. Nellie Tafalla has received distinguished awards such as the "Maura Women Helping Women Award" in 1988, the 2015 "Profiles in Leadership Award" at SMU's 50th Annual Women's Symposium, the "Awards for Excellence in Community Service" from the Dallas Historical Society, and was a Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce 2015 La Cima Latina Leader nominee. Currently, Mrs. Tafalla serves on the Dallas Mexican American Historical League's board and is involved in other civic activities; and

WHEREAS, Beverly Tobian has dedicated her life as an advocate and a voice for all women, especially survivors of domestic violence, the elderly, and women involved in prostitution, work that earned her the notable "Maura Women Helping Women Award" in 2013. Mrs. Tobian's efforts to improve the quality of life for women resulted in the creation of the Women's Council Health and Human Services Coalition which she led for decades. Most recently, the Beverly Tobian Young Women's Leadership Scholarship made it possible for three women in the nonprofit sector to participate in the Leadership Dallas program, the next generation of women leaders. Even today, in her ninth decade, she remains an ever-present advocate for women and women's rights; and

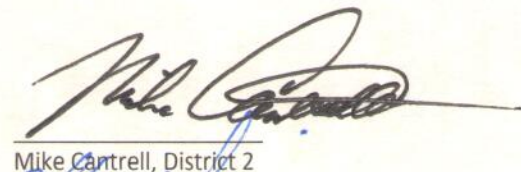
WHEREAS, The Honorable Annie Dickson, a long-time resident of Garland, Texas, has dedicated her life to uplifting the civic, educational and spiritual needs of her community and beyond. Mrs. Dickson was the first African American woman elected to the Garland City Council and served two consecutive terms. A testament to her spirit of volunteerism and community impact, Annie Dickson's awards are many, over 50, including recognitions from Garland ISD, the City of Garland, churches, local, state and national organizations. In 2008, Mayor Ronald Jones of Garland presented Mrs. Dickson with a proclamation for community service and proclaimed the week of February 17-23 as "Annie Dickson Week". Mrs. Dickson serves as Vice President of the NAACP Garland Unit, as well as on other boards.

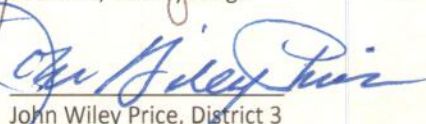
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that on behalf of the Dallas County Commissioner Court and the residents of Dallas County, we call upon all citizens to observe the month of March as Women's History Month, recognizing that we draw strength and inspiration from the women who came before us and these remarkable women who are honored here today.

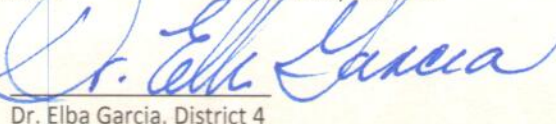
DONE IN OPEN COURT this the 1st day of March, 2016.


Clay Lewis Jenkins, County Judge


Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, District 1


Mike Cantrell, District 2


John Wiley Price, District 3


Dr. Elba Garcia, District 4