Resolution

ORDER NO. 2021-1260

DATE: December 7, 2021

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF DALLAS §



BE IT REMEMBERED, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 7th day of December, 2021, on a motion made by <u>Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, Commissioner District 1</u>, and seconded by <u>John Wiley Price, Commissioner District 3</u>, the following Resolution was adopted:

- WHEREAS, The Dallas County Commissioners Court takes special notice when an individual has given faithful service to Dallas County; and
- WHEREAS, Daniel Aleman Jr. was born in Brownwood and grew up in West Texas before his family moved to Oak Cliff in 1966. Aleman, a third-generation Mexican American, is bilingual thanks to his mother who taught him how to read, write and speak Spanish. He graduated from Kimball High School, Dallas Baptist College and then Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth; and
- WHEREAS, At the young age of 17, he accepted his calling to be a pastor after being involved in the Beverly Hills Baptist Church youth group. Aleman and his wife, Debbie started their congregation in Mesquite in 1997. Creek Crossing Harvest Church is a growing fellowship of believers which meets in the "Old Town Square" of Mesquite. He and a group of pastors in the Mesquite Ministerial Alliance worked together with Mayor Mike Anderson to begin Addressing Mesquite, an annual event where volunteers help disabled and elderly residents with home repairs; and
- WHEREAS, During this experience, Aleman saw the critical role that a mayor plays in shaping the community. He was compelled to run for mayor after serving as District 6 Councilmember since 2016. As Councilmember, he prioritized inclusion for the city's Spanish speaking residents and encouraged staff to translate vital communication to dismantle language barriers; and
- WHEREAS, In the November 2021 elections, Aleman was elected to be the City of Mesquite's first Latino mayor with 59% of the vote. For the first time in 134 years, Mesquite will have a mayor of color and the Hispanic population, which makes up 41% of the total population, will see themselves represented in the city's highest office; and
- WHEREAS, At 6 a.m., Mesquite residents can find Mayor Aleman live on Facebook, praying for the city. He will continue to work towards a more inclusive city because he believes "we are better together for a better Mesquite"; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dallas County Commissioners Court does hereby recognize Mr. Daniel Aleman Jr. for his faithful service and further expresses best wishes and success in his new position as the first Latino Mayor of the City of Mesquite.

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DONE IN OPEN COURT, this the 7th day of December 2021.

Clay Lewis Jenkins,
County Judge

Dr. Theresa M. Daniel,
District 1

Dr. Elba Garcia,
District 4