

# Resolution



ORDER NO: 2021-0467

DATE: May 18, 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 6th day of April 2021 on a 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 month of May has been designated National Drug Court Month. The illegal consumption of drugs has had a devastating effect on millions of lives throughout this nation and in each individual community, sparking a need to functionalize many of our criminal justice systems. Now there are Drug Courts located in every U.S. State and Territory; and

**WHEREAS**, The first Drug Court in Dallas County opened its doors in 1998 under the simple premise that rather than allow individuals with long histories of drug abuse and crime to continue cycling through the criminal justice system at an enormous expense to taxpayers, the criminal justice system would leverage its courts to keep individuals engaged in drug treatment programs. The Honorable John Creuzot, while serving as a Dallas County District Judge, founded Dallas County's first drug court, the Dallas Initiative for Expedited Recovery and Treatment (DIVERT) Court; and

**WHEREAS**, Drug Courts provide focus and leadership for community-wide partnerships, fusing public safety and public health professionals for the purpose of fighting against drug abuse and the criminal elements that follow drug abuse; and

**WHEREAS**, Dallas County now has 14 adult specialty courts certified by the Texas State Office of the Governor, an effort to make treatment courts accessible to eligible persons in need. The design and structure of the 14 certified specialty courts was developed to reflect the unique strengths and needs of Dallas County and focus on Co-Occurring Disorders, Reentry, Mental Health, DWI, Drug, Commercially Exploited Individuals, and Veterans; and

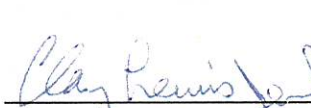
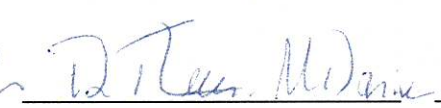

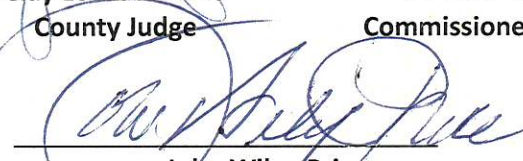
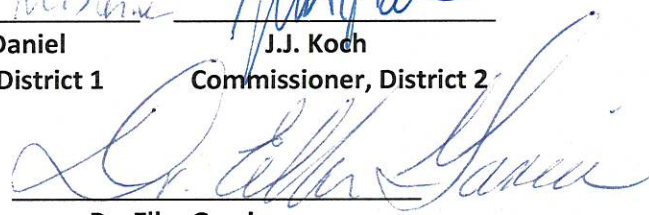
**WHEREAS**, Treatment courts are now recognized as the most successful criminal justice intervention in our nation's history. Treatment courts reduce crime and significantly improve substance use treatment outcomes at a much lower expense than any other criminal justice strategy; and

**WHEREAS**, Dallas County Specialty Courts are operational through the role of collaborative partnerships with key stakeholders, including the Judiciary, the Dallas County Public Defender's Office, the Dallas County District Attorney's Office, the Dallas County Community Supervision and Corrections Department, the Dallas County Criminal Justice Department, and a variety of community treatment and resource providers; and

**WHEREAS**, The month of May has been nationally dedicated to celebrating National Drug Court Month. This month we're celebrating the promise of recovery and restored hope to the graduates of the Drug Courts and to their families who stand with them.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Dallas County Commissioners Court does hereby declare the month of May 2021 as "Drug Court Month" and celebrates those who courageously embark on their recovery journey. We recognize and acknowledge the practitioners and participants who make Drug Courts effective and for the significant contributions that Drug Courts continue to make in reducing drug use and crime.

**DONE IN OPEN COURT**, this the 18th day of May 2021.

 Clay Lewis Jenkins County Judge	 Dr. Theresa Daniel Commissioner, District 1	 J.J. Koch Commissioner, District 2
 John Wiley Price Commissioner, District 3	 Dr. Elba Garcia Commissioner, District 4	