

# Resolution



ORDER NO: 2022-0522

DATE: May 17, 2022

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF DALLAS §

**BE IT REMEMBERED**, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 17th day of May 2022 on a motion made by Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, Commissioner of District 1, and seconded by John Wiley Price, Commissioner of District 3 the following Resolution was adopted:

**WHEREAS**, 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 reform our criminal justice system; and

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

**WHEREAS**, Dallas County has 14 adult specialty courts certified by the Texas State Office of the Governor, in an effort to put a treatment court within reach of every eligible person in need. The design and structure of the 14 certified specialty courts were developed to reflect the unique strengths and needs of Dallas County; and the 14 certified specialty courts focus in the areas of Co-Occurring Disorders, Reentry, Mental Health, DWI, Drug, Commercially Exploited Individuals, and Veterans; 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 designated National Drug Court Month; and

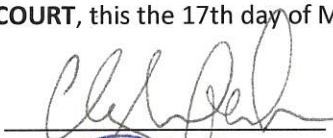


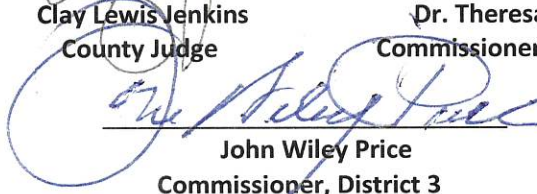
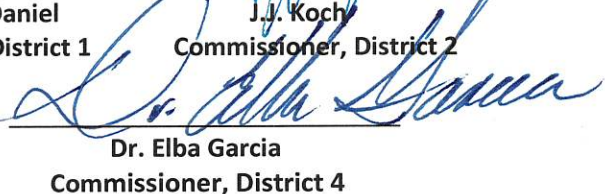
**WHEREAS**, Drug Courts provide focus and leadership for community-wide partnership, fusing public safety and public health professionals for the purpose of fighting against drug abuse and the criminal elements that follow drug abuse; and

**WHEREAS**, mental health and substance use disorders affect all communities nationwide, with commitment and support, those impacted can embark on a journey of improved health and overall wellness. Treatment courts reduce crime and significantly improve substance use treatment outcomes at less expense than any other criminal justice strategy. Treatment courts facilitate community-wide partnerships, bringing together public safety and public health; and

**WHEREAS**, May 2022 marks *National Drug Court Month*, which celebrates the promise of recovery and restored hope to the graduates of Drug Court and to their families

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Dallas County Commissioners Court declares that a "Drug Court Month" be established during the Month of May 2022 in recognition of 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 17th day of May 2022.

 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	