

# Resolution



ORDER NO. 2024- 0832

DATE: August 20, 2024

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF DALLAS §

**BE IT REMEMBERED**, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 20th day of August, 2024, 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 Dallas County Commissioners Court joins the nation and the community in recognizing Women's Equality Day 2024. On August 26, 1920, U.S. Secretary of State Bainbridge Colby signed a proclamation to certify the ratification of the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment that prohibited denying any citizen the right to vote based on gender. Texas was the ninth state of the Union, to ratify the Nineteenth Amendment; and

**WHEREAS**, Changing the Constitution was a lengthy and complicated struggle and began in 1848 with the first Women's Rights Convention in Seneca Falls, New York. The Seneca Falls Convention had more than 300 attendees, including organizers Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott. The meeting launched the Women's Suffrage Movement, and it was where the rights of American women were outlined in the Declaration of Sentiment; and

**WHEREAS**, Even though the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment was ratified in 1920, many women of color were unable to exercise their right to vote. Though these women rallied alongside white suffragists, many women of color remained disenfranchised until the mid-20th century: Native American women (1924); Chinese American women (1943); and Japanese and other Asian American women (1952). It was not until the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, 45 years after the enactment of the 19th Amendment, that Black women were able to exercise this right without restrictions; and

**WHEREAS**, To continue the fight for equal representation, elections matter. In Dallas County where the county and most municipalities are 50% women, two women currently serve as County Commissioners, 40% of the 5 members. Six women serve on the Dallas City Council, 43% of the fourteen council members. On the Garland City Council 33%, three of nine seats, are filled by women and in Mesquite only one member of six is a woman, only 17%. On the other hand, women represent 71% of the Balch Springs City Council with five of the seven members being female; and

**WHEREAS**, Women's equality is a world-wide movement. The 2024 International Women's Day theme is "#InspireInclusion." The "Inspire Inclusion" campaign calls upon communities across the world to imagine a gender equal world. A world free of bias, stereotypes, and discrimination. A world that's diverse, equitable, and inclusive. A world where difference is valued and celebrated. Women's rights are challenged every day. As long as acts of bias and violence continue towards women, we are not done yet.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Dallas County Commissioners Court does hereby proclaim August 26, 2024 as **Women's Equality Day** in Dallas County. Dallas County joins the nation in celebrating women everywhere – mothers, daughters, spouses, sisters, friends, essential workers. We call on the entire community to join women in support of women's rights.

**DONE IN OPEN COURT** on this the 20th day of August, 2024.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Clay Lewis Jenkins".

Clay Lewis Jenkins  
County Judge

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dr. Theresa M. Daniel".

Dr. Theresa M. Daniel  
Commissioner, District 1

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Andrew Sommerman".

Andrew Sommerman  
Commissioner, District 2

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Wiley Price".

John Wiley Price  
Commissioner, District 3

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dr. Elba Garcia".

Dr. Elba Garcia  
Commissioner, District 4