Resolution

ORDER NO. 2026 -0516

DATE: May 5, 2026

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF DALLAS

BE IT REMEMBERED, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 5th day of May, 2026 on a motion made by **Dr. Theresa Daniel, Commissioner for District 1,** and seconded by **Commissioner Sommermam District 2,** the following Resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, The Dallas County Commissioners Court acknowledges the valuable contributions of those who serve as jurors in our judicial system. Jury Appreciation Week was established by legislation passed in 2015 by the 84th Legislature and was first celebrated in 2016; and

WHEREAS, Trial by jury is a fundamental aspect of our justice system and is highly valued in both the Texas and Federal Constitutions. The role of juries is essential in upholding our democracy and protecting the freedoms we enjoy as citizens of a free society. Jury service is so important that the sworn members of a jury panel are considered officers of the court; and

WHEREAS, The Commissioners Court recognizes that the Constitution and laws of Texas offer procedural safeguards for all defendants in criminal cases, including those who are indigent. These safeguards guarantee the right to a trial by jury in both civil and criminal matters, helping the courts comply with these legal requirements; and

WHEREAS, In Dallas County, around 551,000 citizens are summoned for jury service annually, resulting in approximately $2.5 million spent on juror compensation each year. The county recognizes the significant sacrifices jurors make in their personal, family, and professional lives to fulfill their duty. Each juror's commitment enables the Dallas County
Judicial System to fairly and justly resolve thousands of cases every year; and

WHEREAS, Dallas County is dedicated to enhancing the jury process and ensuring that serving on a jury is a rewarding and comfortable experience. To support this effort, a Jury Appreciation Committee has been formed. This committee includes members from the County, Jury Services, the Judiciary, as well as representatives from the Dallas Legal Community through the Dallas Bar Association and the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA). The committee is responsible for continually monitoring any needs or issues that may arise and advising the County accordingly.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dallas County Commissioners Court does hereby declare May 4th – 8th, 2026, as **Jury Appreciation Week** in recognition of the fair and impartial justice offered to our citizens by past, present, and future jurors serving our system of justice and democracy. Dallas County recognizes the importance of jury service in the preservation of the rule of law and the fair and impartial administration of justice.

DONE IN OPEN COURT this the 5th day of May 2026.

Clay Lewis Jenkins, County Judge

Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, District 1

Andrew Sommerman, District 2

John Wiley Price, District 3

Dr. Elba Garcia, District 4