

Andy Sommerman

Dallas County Commissioner

District 2 Newsletter



Budget Edition

Dallas County's budget was approved on September 17, 2024 in Commissioners Court!

I worked to reallocate funds for a number of projects (some were close to my heart) to help fill the hole created by overtime expenditures at the Sheriff's office and elsewhere. We are working to alleviate the overtime problem through stricter procedures for overtime.



3% raise for Dallas County Employees!

Dallas County is proud to announce that its employees will receive a 3% raise. Doing this wasn't easy. With the County dealing with the overtime expenditures and funding ARPA positions; it looked like any sort of salary increase wasn't in the cards.

However, I asked for help from our wonderful Dallas County Clerk John Warren and Dallas County District Clerk Felicia Pitre and requested that they allocate some of their monies from fees from the Record Management Fund towards the 3% raise. They agreed! Thank you Mr. Warren and Ms. Pitre for your selfless contribution!

What is CLEAR?

CLEAR stands for Compassionate Law Enforcement Active Response and is a program I plan to implement soon. The purpose of CLEAR is to create a specialized task force that will address 21st century issues such as homelessness, domestic violence, human trafficking and mental health crises with compassion and de-escalation strategies.

How does it work?

To apply for CLEAR, the undergraduate student must complete their first year of college. Dallas County will provide a scholarship for enrolled students for the last 75 hours of their Bachelor's degree.

In return, the student will agree to work full-time at Dallas County/Parkland as an officer for three years. If the student breaches their three-year employment contract then they must repay the scholarship to Dallas County.



Currently, I am working with UT Arlington and UT Dallas to create a curriculum that prepares students for their career.

ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE?

The Presidential Election is on November 5th this year!

- Last Day to Register to Vote: Monday, October 7, 2024
- First Day of Early Voting: Monday, October 21, 2024
- Last Day to Apply for Ballot by Mail: Friday, October 25, 2024
- Last Day of Early Voting: Friday, November 1, 2024
- Election Day: Tuesday, November 5, 2024

For more information click here: [Elections Department Website](#)



AGRILIFE 4-H RiISING STARS

On August 10, I had the honor of presenting awards to the Rising Stars of the 4-H program. The 4-H program teaches youth valuable life lessons through engaging activities, community service, and leadership. The Rising Star Volunteer Award is given to individuals who have spent more than 2 years as a 4-H volunteer.



I wrote a special poem to commemorate the occasion:

Twinkle Twinkle little star,
Head, Heart, Hands and Health,
Use them wisely and you'll go far,
Twinkle Twinkle little star.



Congratulations to the winners!

Angela Johnson

Jocelyn Lackey

Alex Whalen

Linda Hampton

David Hampton



Events Around District 2



This is Tom Ervin!

August 7 - Tour of Catholic Charity Vantage Point
Commissioner Sommerman, Paige Lynne, (Legal Analyst)

HHS Immunization Clinic at St. Barnabus Presbyterian Church
Pastor Katy Rigler, Dapheny Fain (Chief of Staff, District 3), Tom Ervin (Chief of Staff, District 2)

This is Commissioner Sommerman!



Click on the link to read more about Broadband!



August 20th - Broadband access expansion for Dallas County

ZeeAnn Kane, Senior Account Manager for Zayo, **Jason Taylor**, VP of Sales for Zayo, **Judge Clay Lewis Jenkins**, **Commissioner Andy Sommerman**, **Commissioner Theresa Daniel** District 1, **Commissioner Elba Garcia** District 4, **Commissioner John Wiley Price** District 3, **Brian Daniels**, Chief Sales Officer for Zayo, **Kimberly Storin**, Chief Marketing Officer for Zayo, **Marie Arcos**, Chief Government Affairs Officer for Compudopt and **Consuella Whipple**, VP of Site Operations for Compudopt



Congratulations

On September 17, 2024, I brought forth a Resolution congratulating Mr. Michael Sandlin on his retirement and thanked him for giving Dallas County 30 years of outstanding work. Michael Sandlin graduated from Baylor law school in 1986 and began his career at the District Attorney's office in 1991 and retired in July 2024.

He is a member of the Texas Board Legal Specialization Criminal Appellate Law Advisory Commission and is one of the 87 attorneys in Texas who are certified in both Criminal Law and Criminal Appellate Law.

Michael has made a lasting impact on many individuals here at the county, and we wish him the best on his future ventures and thank him for the exceptional contributions he has made at Dallas County.

Recent News Articles



Dallas Morning News 9/23 -
Dallas County OKs \$1.7B budget with lower tax rate, but high valuations may drive up bills



NBCDFW 9/25 -
Dallas Council approves \$7.8 million contract with county jail



WFAA 9/24 -
An Irving restaurant was named one of the 50 best in the U.S. by the New York Times

Did you know?
Simply South is located in District 2!

Email District2Office@dallascounty.org if you have any questions or comments!

Follow me social media

Facebook: Commissioner Andrew Sommerman

X: @andrewfordallas

Instagram: andrewfordallas

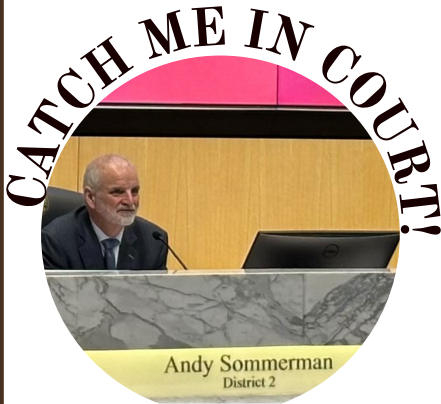


Have Great News in District 2 to add to the newsletter? Would you like Commissioner Sommerman to attend your next neighborhood meeting? Contact us at District2Office@dallascounty.org

GET THE NEWSLETTER IN YOUR INBOX:

[DISTRICT2OFFICE@DALLASCOUNTY.ORG](mailto:District2Office@dallascounty.org)

Upcoming Events



Commissioners Court October 1st @ 9am
Watch Online:
<https://dallascounty.civicweb.net/portal/>



Homeownership Panel, October 26th 9 am - 12 pm
Location: North Dallas Government Center, 6820
Lyndon B Johnson Fwy Dallas, TX, 75230
Scan the QR code or click [RSVP](#) to sign up!

