



Nov 5, 2019

## **“Ellis County Becomes 10th Second Amendment Sanctuary County”**

**“The Commissioners’ Court approved a resolution in support of the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution.”**

Waxahachie, TX – The Ellis County Commissioners’ Court responds to attacks on citizens’ gun rights with an affirming resolution upholding the Second Amendment. Article 1, Section 23, protects citizens’ “inalienable and individual right to keep and bear arms”.

In July of 2019, the Commissioners’ Court decided to remove a lockdown of the Historic Courthouse doors, which had prohibited License to Carry holders from carrying within the building. The reopening of the courthouse included unrestricted access to any of the four main entrances while allowing Licensed to Carry holders the right to carry once again while on premise (excluding the two utilized court rooms). The Commissioners’ Court found that it was unconstitutional to restrict citizens’ from practicing their Second Amendment rights.

Yesterday, November 5, the Commissioners’ Court voted unanimously 4-0 in favor of a resolution designating Ellis County a Second Amendment “Sanctuary County”. An excerpt from the resolution states: “This Commissioners Court will not authorize or appropriate government funds, resources, employees, agencies, contractors, buildings, detention centers or offices for the purpose of enforcing law that unconstitutionally infringes on the right of the people to keep and bear arms”.

Twelve Ellis County residents participated in the Commissioners’ Court session urging the court to approve of the resolution. “Our gun rights are being taken away daily,” said local resident Kathy Ponce, “The second amendment shall not be infringed upon”.

Ellis County Judge Todd Little reflected upon the decision stating, “I pledged to the Ellis County citizens to always fight for their Second Amendment rights, today was about the people, and the commitment to defend their freedoms”. Commissioner Paul Perry added on by expressing “the importance of government officials to make it clear that they stand by the Constitution”.

Ellis County now joins the growing list of Texas sanctuary counties including Edwards, Hudspeth, Presidio, Mitchell, Hood, Smith and Parker Counties.



## RESOLUTION of the Ellis County Commissioners' Court

*WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Ellis County Commissioners Court to declare its support of the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution and the Texas Constitution, Article 1, Section 23, protecting citizens' inalienable and individual right to keep and bear arms; and,*

*WHEREAS, the members of Ellis County Commissioners took an oath to support and defend the United States Constitution, the Constitution of the State of Texas and laws of the State of Texas (insofar as they are constitutional), and,*

*NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commissioners Court of the County of Ellis by the authority granted to the Commissioners by the laws of the State of Texas and people of Ellis County, Texas to stand and defend their rights and liberties, which are guaranteed by the United States and Texas Constitutions, we hereby declare this Resolution as follows:*

*Second Amendment Preservation Resolution Designating Ellis County a Second Amendment "Sanctuary County"*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Commissioners Court affirms its support for any appointed or elected Sheriff and any other law enforcement officer of Ellis County, Texas, in the exercise of sound discretion. We also affirm our resolve to support decisions by our Sheriff and any other law enforcement officer to not enforce any unconstitutional firearms laws against any citizen.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Commissioners Court will not authorize or appropriate government funds, resources, employees, agencies, contractors, buildings, detention centers or offices for the purpose of enforcing law that unconstitutionally infringes on the right of the people to keep and bear arms.*

*Adopted this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2019:*

Todd Little, County Judge

Randy Stinson, Commissioner, Precinct 1

Lane Grayson, Commissioner, Precinct 2

Paul Perry, Commissioner, Precinct 3

Kyle Butler, Commissioner, Precinct 4

Attest: Krystal Valdez, County Clerk