



A Proclamation by Ellis County Commissioner's Court In Recognition of Elder Abuse Prevention Month

WHEREAS, the elderly population of Ellis County has contributed greatly to our community's historic success and present cultural enrichment; and

WHEREAS, these residents, who built our proud heritage through their endeavors and still guide our decisions through their wisdom, remain a vital and integral part of society; and

WHEREAS, the abuse or neglect of elders and disabled individuals represents a moral and legal crime that affects many thousands of Americans each year; and

WHEREAS, in the year 2020, Texas Adult Protective Services investigated 346 and confirmed 196 cases of abuse, neglect, or exploitation against Ellis County residents who were elderly or disabled; and

WHEREAS, our elderly and disabled residents in Ellis County may grossly underreport abuse and neglect due to fear or embarrassment; and

WHEREAS, many cases of elder abuse involve self-neglect due to loneliness, depression, or isolation – conditions may not be readily evident to others; and

WHEREAS, abuse occurs to elders of all backgrounds, income levels, and areas, thus constituting a universal need for dutiful citizens to identify and report potential cases of abuse or neglect; and


WHEREAS, through the full engagement of our citizens against the abuse or neglect of their elderly and disabled neighbors, Ellis County and TX APS can protect a vulnerable population from wrongdoing; and

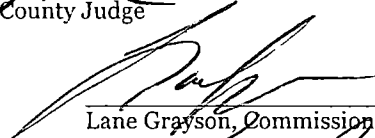
WHEREAS, all Ellis County citizens are called upon to serve as guardians and good Samaritans for those members of the community who cannot always help themselves in times of personal crisis;

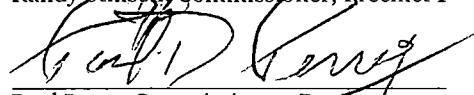
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Ellis County Commissioner's Court recognizes the month of June in the year 2021 as Elder Abuse Prevention & Awareness Month.

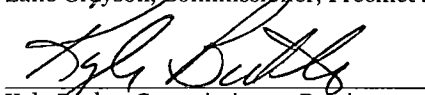
In witness thereof, signed the 29th of June, 2021

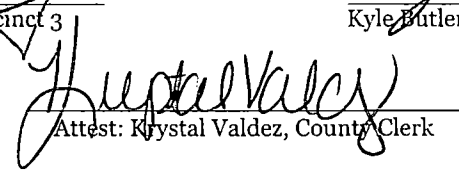

Todd Little, Ellis County Judge


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



Texas Department of Family and Protective Services

Commissioner
Jaime Masters

Honorable Judge Todd Little

Ellis County Courthouse

101 W Main St.

Waxahachie, Texas 75165

Dear Judge Todd Little:

June is **Elder Abuse Prevention Month**. This month provides an excellent opportunity for **Ellis County** to demonstrate its support in ending Elder Abuse and to support the numerous victims who are among us. It's a wonderful opportunity to educate the public on the seriousness of abuse, neglect and financial exploitation of the elderly population.

Adult Protective Services and Community Partners would be honored if you would sponsor an official proclamation to recognize June as **Ellis County** Elder Abuse Prevention Month. Your proclamation would lend official recognition to the important work of educating the public on Elder Abuse, as well as emphasize your personal commitment to help protect elderly health, safety and rights.

- Statewide APS received 117,441 cases, investigated 86,614 and confirmed 52,506 cases of abuse, neglect or financial exploitation of elderly or adults with a disabling condition in 2020 according to DFPS Annual Data Books.
- **Ellis County** APS Caseworkers investigated **346** cases and confirmed **196** cases in **2020** according to DFPS Annual Data Books.

I have enclosed a sample proclamation which may help your office compose the appropriate proclamation for **Ellis County**.

Thanks,

Stephanie McCoy

DFPS Faith-Based & Community Engagement

(469) 553-7873 – Agency Cell