

Resolution



ORDER NO. 2016-0948

DATE: AUGUST 16, 2016

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF DALLAS §

BE IT REMEMBERED, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 16th day of August, 2016, 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, Women in the United States fought for voting rights starting in 1848 and won the right to vote seventy years later with the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States in 1920. This August 26th marks the 96th anniversary of the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment, which prohibited denying any citizen the right to vote based on gender - a step that forever transformed our nation. Texas was the ninth state in the Union, and the first southern state, to ratify the Nineteenth Amendment; and

WHEREAS, Women have defended and embraced their constitutional right to be treated as equal citizens of this nation and to freely exercise their civic duties. Women have taken leadership roles at all levels of government – county, city, state, and national – paving the way and creating opportunities for all those who will follow. Women provide their labor, talent, vision, spirit and dedication to achieve equality for all; and

WHEREAS, In Dallas County, the first women trailblazers of the Dallas County Commissioners Court includes Mrs. Fred Harris, the first woman appointed in 1942; Nancy Judy, the first woman elected in 1979 and served fifteen years until 1994; and Margaret Keliher, the first woman elected as County Judge in 1998. Among other countywide elected officials, Lupe Valdez is the first Hispanic female Sheriff elected in 2005 in Dallas County and in the United States and she continues to serve; and

WHEREAS, Today, two women serve as Dallas County Commissioners, 40% of the five member court and five women serve as Dallas City Council Members, 33% of the fifteen council members. Women continue to participate and contribute to important decisions in government planning and oversight; and


WHEREAS, The first woman to serve in the U. S. House of Representatives was Jeanette Rankin in 1917 and the first woman to serve in the U. S. Senate was Rebecca Latimer Felton in 1922. Today, there are eighty-eight women in the House of Representatives and twenty in the Senate. These one hundred and eight women represent 20% of the 541 seats (including territorial and DC representatives) in the 114th U.S. Congress; and

WHEREAS, History was made on July 28, 2016 when the first woman Presidential Nominee for a major political party was nominated. On this special occasion, we must bear in mind that while women have achieved a great deal in the face of significant obstacles, there is still much to accomplish in our work to achieve total equality; and

WHEREAS, We recommit ourselves to pursuing full equality for all women. We recognize that while white women earn an average of \$0.82 to the dollar as men do, African American women and Latinas earn \$0.65 and \$0.58, respectively. Additionally, we recognize women with regard to employment discrimination, and we pledge our support in fighting unequal treatment of any kind.

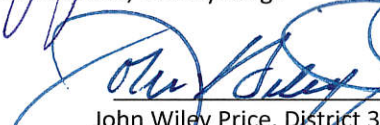
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dallas County Commissioners Court does hereby proclaim August 26, 2016 as **Women's Equality Day** in Dallas County. Dallas County joins the nation in celebrating and uplifting women everywhere.


DONE IN OPEN COURT on this the 16th of August, 2016.


Clay Lewis Jenkins, County Judge


Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, District 1


Mike Cantrell, District 2


John Wiley Price, District 3


Dr. Elba Garcia, District 4