

**COURT ORDER
2014-1008**



Beverly Levy - Retirement

On a motion made by Commissioner Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, District 1, and seconded by Commissioner Mike Cantrell, District 2, the following order was passed and adopted by the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, State of Texas:

BRIEFING DATE: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

Be it resolved and ordered that the Dallas County Commissioners Court does hereby thank Beverly Levy for her passion, vision, and leadership protecting the rights of those children unable to speak for themselves, as we celebrate her 21 years at Dallas CASA and congratulate her on her retirement.

Done in open court August 12, 2014, by the following vote:

IN FAVOR: Honorable Clay Lewis Jenkins, County Judge
Commissioner Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, District 1
Commissioner Mike Cantrell, District 2
Commissioner John Wiley Price, District 3
Commissioner Dr. Elba Garcia, District 4

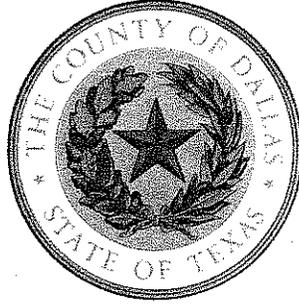
OPPOSED: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: None

Recommended by: Commissioner Dr. Theresa M. Daniel
Originating Department: Road and Bridge 1

Resolution



ORDER NO. 2014-1008

DATE: August 12, 2014

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF DALLAS §

BE IT REMEMBERED, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 12th day of August 2014 on a motion made by Dr. Theresa Daniel, Commissioner District 1 and seconded by Mike Cantrell, Commissioner District 2 the following Resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, The Dallas County Commissioner Court wishes to congratulate Beverly Levy on her retirement from Dallas CASA, Court Appointed Special Advocates, and for her twenty-one years of leadership and passion to improve the lives of abused and neglected children; and

WHEREAS, The foundation of Dallas CASA is based on the Foster Child Advocate Services (FOCAS) which was established in Dallas in January 1980 with a grant from the Edna McConnell Clark Foundation and it was administered by the National Council of Jewish Women. FOCAS was one of three CASA pilot programs in the country. It was through the National Council of Jewish Women that Beverly Levy became deeply involved; and

WHEREAS, In 1993, FOCAS name was changed to Dallas CASA to leverage the increasing recognition and reputation of the CASA program across the country. Beverly Levy was hired as their new Executive Director and President.

WHEREAS, Dallas CASA is now a non-profit organization of volunteers who are appointed by the courts to help abused and neglected children find safe, permanent homes where they can thrive. In Dallas County, more than 2,000 abused and neglected children on an average day live in foster care. These children need powerful voices to speak for them and the CASA volunteers serve as their voices in court; and

WHEREAS, Beverly Levy developed Dallas CASA into a model program that is a critical aspect of the child welfare system. She has led the agency's phenomenal growth from five to 60 employees and from 50 to almost 700 volunteer advocates. Under her leadership, Beverly Levy launched CASA's signature fundraising event, the Parade of Playhouses at North Park Center, which has raised more than \$2 million to support abused children. Beverly Levy inspired the Cherish the Children Luncheon, as well as the Champion of Children Award Dinner, to support the work of CASA volunteers; and

WHEREAS, In 2000, Beverly Levy and U.S. Attorney Paul Coggins established *Target: Kids in Court*, a collaboration of community leaders and heads of governmental agencies to make significant systemic changes that would move children through the court system and into permanent homes more quickly.

WHEREAS, Beverly Levy has received numerous awards and honors throughout her career. She received the *Liberty Bell Award* given by the Young Lawyers Association that recognizes a non-lawyer for outstanding contributions that promote justice and the *Women's Advocacy Award for Nonprofit Executives* from Legal Aid of Northwest Texas. Beverly Levy was also honored as the *National CASA Outstanding CASA Program Director of the Year* in 2011; and

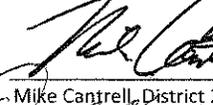
WHEREAS, Although her accomplishments are many, the manner in which Beverly Levy furthered the cause is what sets her apart from her colleagues. Beverly Levy's passion and inspiration motivated others as she created awareness about the issues facing child victims, enlisting community support, and funding from individuals, corporations and foundations. She worked closely with the Dallas CASA board members, employees, Child Protective Services, the Judges, Courts, County Commissioners, local law enforcements and families; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that on behalf of the Dallas County Commissioners Court, the Dallas County Citizens, and particularly the abused and neglected children of Dallas County who are the beneficiaries of Dallas CASA, we thank you for your passion, vision, and leadership protecting the rights of those children unable to speak for themselves, as we celebrate your 21 years at Dallas CASA and congratulate you on your retirement.

DONE IN OPEN COURT this the 12th day of August, 2014.


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