

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month calls attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and impacts women, men and children of all racial, cultural and economic backgrounds in this community, and

WHEREAS, rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment impacts our community as shown by statistics indicating that one in five women and one in seventy one men will be sexually assaulted at some point in their lives, and

WHEREAS, child sexual abuse prevention must be a priority to confront the reality that one in six boys and one in four girls will experience a sexual assault before age 18; and

WHEREAS, we must work together to educate our community about sexual violence prevention and holding perpetrators who commit acts of violence responsible for their actions, and

WHEREAS, Women's Center of East Texas will join other victim service providers, criminal and juvenile justice agencies, health providers and allied professionals in supporting survivors, speaking out against harmful attitudes and actions and generating greater public awareness of the issues surrounding sexual assault; and

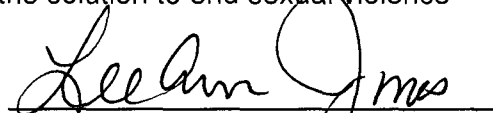
WHEREAS, Panola County strongly supports the efforts of national, state, and local partners, and of every citizen to actively engage in public and private efforts, including conversations about what sexual violence is; how to prevent it; how to help survivors connect with services, and how every segment of our society can work together to better address sexual violence

NOW, THEREFORE, the Commissioners' Court of Panola County, Texas does hereby proclaim the month of April, 2017


SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

in Panola County, and joins anti-sexual violence advocates and support service programs in the belief that all community members must be part of the solution to end sexual violence

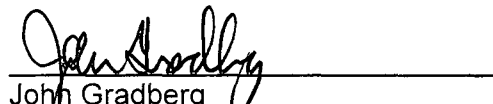
Dated this 27th day of March, 2017



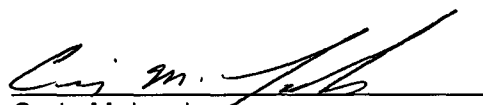
LeeAnn Jones, County Judge




Ronnie LaGrone
Commissioner, Precinct 1



John Gradberg
Commissioner, Precinct 2




Craig M. Lawless
Commissioner, Precinct 3



Dale LaGrone
Commissioner, Precinct 4

ATTEST:



Bobbie Davis, County Clerk



The annual observance of Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month is April 2017. During this month, Women's Center of East Texas, which serves survivors of sexual assault and their families will be sponsoring events to educate our citizens about sexual assault and to encourage their support as we work together to end this devastating crime.

Women's Center of East Texas would be honored if you would sponsor a proclamation to recognize April 2017 as Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month in your county. Such a proclamation will publicly reaffirm your commitment to this important cause and recognize the efforts of those who serve survivors of sexual assault in our community.

I have enclosed a sample proclamation which you may use to compose your proclamation. If you have any questions concerning either this request or the sample proclamation, please contact me via email.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this special request.