

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, people who are elderly or have disabilities have contributed to the general welfare of Panola County, Texas by helping to preserve customs, convictions, and traditions of many people from diverse backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, these residents are vital and integral members of our society and their wisdom and experience have enriched our lives; and

WHEREAS, abuse of the elderly and people with disabilities in domestic and institutional settings is a wide-spread problem, affecting hundreds of thousands of people across the country, and

WHEREAS, Texas APS In-Home Caseworkers in Panola County have received **100** intakes of which **47** cases of Abuse, Neglect and/or Exploitation were confirmed against our elderly Texans or those with disabilities in **2016**; and

WHEREAS, elder abuse is grossly under reported because the elderly who are being abused find it very difficult to tell anyone and are usually ashamed and sometimes afraid; and

WHEREAS, elder abuse happens to men and women of all income levels, all cultural and ethnic groups, whether they are in good health or incapacitated in some way, in poor neighborhoods and in suburbia, and

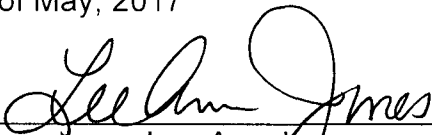
WHEREAS, many of the cases investigated by Adult Protective Services in Texas involve self-neglect and it is our duty as concerned citizens to reach out to people in need,

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


ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

in Panola County, and urges all citizens to work together to help significantly reduce abuse and neglect of people who are elderly or have disabilities in the years to come.

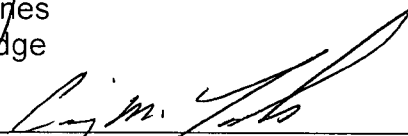
Dated this 8th day of May, 2017



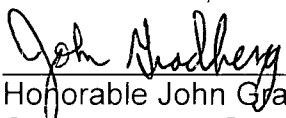
Lee Ann Jones
County Judge



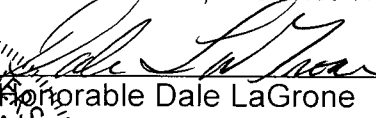
Honorable Ronnie LaGrone
Commissioner, Precinct One



Honorable Craig M. Lawless
Commissioner, Precinct Three



Honorable John Gradberg
Commissioner, Precinct Two



Honorable Dale LaGrone
Commissioner, Precinct Four

ATTEST



Bobbie Davis, County Clerk

