

Commissioner Adrian Garcia

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April 20, 2021

AGENDA ITEM

Commissioner's Court Harris County Administrative Building 1001 Preston, 9th Floor Houston, Texas 77022

Dear Court Members:

Please consider the following item for the April 27, 2021 Commissioners Court agenda.

Harris County Precinct Two requests approval of a resolution observing National Sexual Assault Awareness Month, April 2021.

Your consideration and approval of this request is appreciated.

Sincerely,

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Adrian Garcia Commissioner

Enclosure



WHEREAS, every 73 seconds, an individual is sexually assaulted and every 9 minutes, that individual is a child, most often the assault happens at or near the victim's home, according to the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network. Sexual assault is any unwanted, non-consensual sexual contact against any individual by another using manipulation, pressure, tricks, coercion or physical force. It is any act a person is forced to perform or receive; and

WHEREAS, Child Protective Services agencies report evidence that thousands of children each year are victims of sexual abuse, with a majority of child victims aged 12-17; and

WHEREAS as abuse of power, sexual violence affects college students, members of the U.S. Armed Forces, incarcerated populations and LGBTQLA+ Community, with sexual assault affecting women, men, and children of all racial, social, religious, age, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups in the United States; and

WHEREAS, each year on the first Tuesday of April, advocates bring awareness to Sexual Assault Awareness Month by wearing the color teal, seeking to engage our community in ways to prevent acts of abuse and violence, help survivors, and ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice; and

WHEREAS, support for survivors in Harris County include Houston Area Women's Center Sexual Assault Domestic and Violence Hotlines, University of Houston's Sexual Violence Prevention and Education webpage, LGBT Switchboard Houston, Texas Abuse Hotline of the Department of Family Protective Services, as well as the Safe Helpline for the Department of Defense and the National Sexual Assault Hotline.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Commissioners Court recognizes April 2021 as National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month, supports survivors of sexual assault, and recognizes the efforts of community organizations and private sector supporters, health professionals, law enforcement, public safety officials in promoting awareness about sexual assault, providing information and support to survivors, and increasing the number of successful prosecutions of perpetrators.

ADOPTED on this 27th day of April 2021.

Lina Hidalgo County Judge

Rodney Ellis Commissioner, Precinct 1

Adrian Garcia Commissioner, Precinct 2

Tom S. Ramsey, P.E. Commissioner, Precinct 3 **R. Jack Cagle** Commissioner, Precinct 4

Attest:

Teneshia Hudspeth County Clerk