

## RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF MONTAGUE COUNTY, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS TO SERVE ON THE MULTI-COUNTY SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE TEAM.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF MONTAGUE COUNTY

That Montague County has joined with Archer and Clay Counties to establish the Multi-County Regional Adult Sexual Assault Response Team, effective December 2021.

Montague County will appoint

- The Chief Administrator of sexual assault program; Michelle Turnbow with First Step.
- A prosecutor with jurisdiction over adult sexual assault cases in the County; Mrs. Casey Hall with 97<sup>th</sup> District Court.
- The Sheriff of the County, or their designee; Marshall Thomas, Sheriff of Montague County.
- The Chief of the largest municipal law enforcement agency, if one exists, or their designee; Chief Justin Perron, of Archer City Police Department.
- A Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner, Forensic Examiner that provides exams within the Region, or if they do not exist, a representative from the largest healthcare provider in the Region to be provided by Patsy House.
- A mental or behavioral health provider within the region to be provided by First Step.
- Laura Hetrick, MSU, Title IX Coordinator
- Other persons the presiding officer of the response team considers necessary for the operation of the response team or as recommended by the response team.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED

<sup>1</sup> Texas Local Government Code 351.252 (b)

That in order to create systems that reduce re-traumatization and prioritize victim safety, members of the Regional SART appointed by Montague County are directed to work with other team members to:

- Elect a presiding officer and any other organizational and decision-making structures deemed for the success of the team;

- Recommend additional members for the team as necessary to fulfill the functions of the team;
- Attend scheduled meetings of the team or provide a designee as permitted by statute;
- Create a written interagency protocol that establishes local and regional processes for investigating and prosecuting sexual assaults, identifying and obtaining medical & forensic care, mental health care and advocacy resources for victims as required by Texas Local Government Code 351.256, no later than December 1, 2022;
- In developing a protocol, the response team shall consider Chapter 56A, Code of Criminal Procedure; may provide different procedures for use within a particular municipality or area of the county served by the response team; and shall prioritize the health and safety of survivors, including those who choose not to make a police report;
- Notify the Court of any statutory vacancies on the team that would require a new appointment within 14 days of those occurring;
- Collect and maintain data on the number of sexual assaults reported to local law enforcement agencies and the investigation, prosecution and disposition of such offenses as required by Texas Local Government Code 351.257(A) that will culminate in a written summary to the Commissioners Court by December 1<sup>st</sup> of every odd numbered year;
- Develop processes for information sharing and conflict resolution between team members;
- Distribute the written protocol to all responding law enforcement and service providers throughout our Multi-County Region.
- Participate in a minimum of 4 hours of annual cross training with other team members;
- Evaluate the interagency protocol through the utilization of case reviews, with the signed, written consent of the victim as required by Texas Local Government Code 351.258(f); and
- Participate in writing the biennial report to the Commissioners Court as required by Texas Local Government Code 351.257.

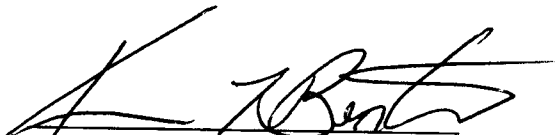
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**

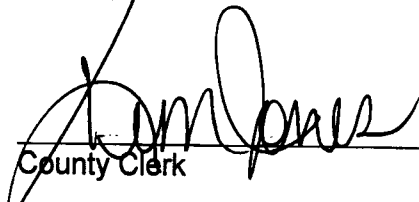
That Montague County will fill any statutory vacancies as requested by the 97<sup>th</sup> District, Multi County SART within 30 days of those vacancies occurring;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**

The written biennial report produced by the team shall be posted in a prominent place on the County's website and by law will be available to the public. The report shall not be redacted prior to its publication except for redactions needed to comply with the law to maintain privacy of individuals otherwise identified in the report.

PASSED, by the Commissioners Court of Montague County this 28<sup>TH</sup> day of November 2022.

  
County Judge

  
County Clerk

