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FILED FOR RECORD
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FEB 24 2026
BECKY LANDRUM
County Clerk, Hunt County, Tex.
by 

TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION

February 2026

WHEREAS, teen dating violence is defined as a pattern of **physical, sexual, psychological, emotional, or economic abuse** occurring within a dating relationship among adolescents; and

WHEREAS, teen dating violence can occur **in person or through digital platforms**, including social media, text messaging, gaming platforms, and other online spaces, and may involve verbal abuse, threats, coercive control, cyberstalking, harassment, or the non-consensual sharing of intimate images and other technology-facilitated forms of abuse; and

WHEREAS, national data continues to demonstrate the seriousness of this issue, with research showing that **approximately 1 in 5 teen girls and 1 in 10 teen boys** in the United States report experiencing physical or sexual dating violence before graduating from high school, and **millions of teens each year** experience some form of abuse within a dating relationship; and

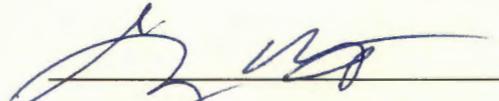
WHEREAS, studies indicate that **more than half of teens know someone who has experienced dating abuse**, yet many victims do not seek help, with fewer than half ever telling a trusted adult or authority due to fear, stigma, or lack of awareness of available resources; and

WHEREAS, the impact of dating violence extends beyond adolescence, as young people who experience dating abuse are at increased risk for **mental health challenges, substance use, academic difficulties, and future intimate partner violence** in adulthood; and

WHEREAS, education and prevention efforts that promote **healthy relationships, consent, respect, digital safety, and accountability**, along with clear information about the legal and personal consequences of abusive behavior, are proven strategies for reducing teen dating violence and fostering safer relationships now and in the future; and

WHEREAS, communities, schools, families, and local organizations play a vital role in raising awareness, supporting survivors, and empowering young people with the knowledge and tools they need to build relationships rooted in dignity, equality, and mutual respect;

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, the Hunt County Commissioners Court , do hereby proclaim the month of **February 2026** as **TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**, and encourage all residents to participate in awareness efforts, support prevention education, stand with survivors, and work together to ensure that all teens can grow, learn, and form relationships free from violence and fear.


County Judge Bobby W. Stovall

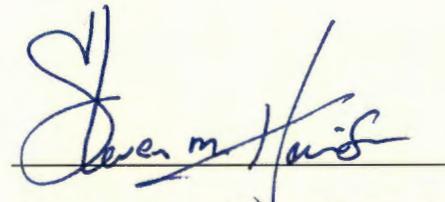
Attest: 
County Clerk Becky Landrum


Commissioner Daren Money




Commissioner David Monroe


Commissioner Garry Smith


Commissioner Steven Harrison

