

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF COLLIN

Subject: Resolution, State Funds for Indigent Criminal Defense – Commissioner, Pct. 1

On **September 19, 2016**, the Commissioners Court of Collin County, Texas, met in **regular session** with the following members present and participating, to wit:

**Keith Self
Susan Fletcher
Cheryl Williams
Chris Hill
Duncan Webb**

**County Judge, Presiding
Commissioner, Precinct 1
Commissioner, Precinct 2
Commissioner, Precinct 3
Commissioner, Precinct 4**

During such session the court considered adoption of the following resolution to support full reimbursement of county indigent defense expenditures.

WHEREAS, the right to assistance by legal counsel is guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the State of Texas is required to implement this right and provide legal counsel to indigent criminal defendants; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Fair Defense Act, adopted by the Texas Legislature in 2001, implements this right and requires certain procedures and attorney appointments; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Legislature has failed to provide sufficient funding to offset the costs of the Fair Defense Act and has shifted this cost to county taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, county expenditures for indigent criminal defense have increased over 100 percent since the adoption of the Fair Defense Act; and

WHEREAS, the state funding is totally inadequate, providing approximately 12 percent of the indigent defense costs; and

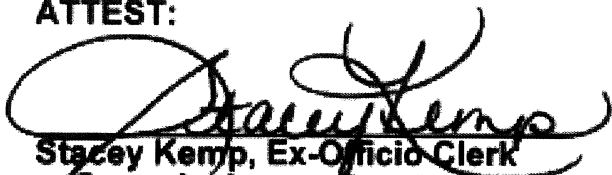
WHEREAS, indigent criminal defense is a state responsibility that should be adequately funded on a statewide basis, not a burden overwhelmingly borne by local property taxpayers;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Commissioners Court of Collin County, Texas does hereby request that the Texas Legislature fully fund the costs of indigent criminal defense.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 19TH day of September, 2016.



ATTEST:


Stacey Kemp, Ex-Officio Clerk
Commissioners Court
Collin County, T E X A S

~ Voted No ~


Keith Self, County Judge


Susan Fletcher, Commissioner, Pct. 1


Cheryl Williams, Commissioner, Pct. 2


Chris Hill, Commissioner, Pct. 3


Duncan Webb, Commissioner, Pct. 4