

State of Texas	§	Court Order
Collin County	§	2022-1304-12-05
Commissioners Court	§	

**An order of the Commissioners Court approving the filing of the November 7, 2022 minutes.**

On Monday, November 7, 2022, the Commissioners Court of Collin County, Texas, met in Special Session in the Center Hallway, First Level, of the Russell A. Steindam Courts Building, 2100 Bloomdale Road, City of McKinney, Texas, with the following members present, and participating, to wit:

Judge Chris Hill  
Commissioner Susan Fletcher, Precinct 1  
Commissioner Darrell Hale, Precinct 3  
Commissioner Duncan Webb, Precinct 4

Absent: Commissioner Cheryl Williams, Precinct 2

Former County Judge Keith Self led the Invocation.  
Sherriff James Skinner led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag.

**COMMISSIONERS COURT BUSINESS:**

R.D. Foster, Vietnam Veteran, and Colin Kimball, McKinney artist and U.S. Air Force veteran, came forward to present six portraits of Collin County fallen warriors to be put on permanent display at the Russell A. Steindam Courts Building. The portraits will be added to the 88 already on display in the “Hall of Heroes” in the courthouse. There are 431 names engraved on the “Wall of Honor” at the Veteran’s Memorial Park in McKinney, and the goal of the project is to put as many faces as possible with those names. Mr. Kimball donates his time and talents to this historic project which began in 2013. The six WWI and WWII heroes to be honored represent the Army, Navy, Army Air Corps and Marine Corps.

Jeff Morgan Tucker, 23, of McKinney was in the U.S. Army’s 816<sup>th</sup> Pioneer Infantry. He was the only American of African descent from Collin County to make it all the way to France. He died of unknown causes and was buried in France in 1918. It was suspected that his death was due to the Spanish Flu, but it was never confirmed. His body was returned home in July 1921 to be reburied at Ross Cemetery in McKinney.

R. Mays Powell, 39, of Anna was a Pharmacist 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Corpsman (medic) in the U.S. Navy. He was killed in action on January 12, 1945, on Luzon Island in the Philippines during a beach landing with U.S. Army Infantry. The boat was attacked by Japanese machine guns and mortars. He died while trying to save a

wounded soldier. He was initially listed as “Missing in Action” until his body was found after the war. He is buried at Highland Cemetery in Melissa, Texas. Since R. Mays was part of the amphibious assault, Mr. Kimball included the Navy amphibious patch in his portrait.

Stanley Marks Duvall, 23, attended Celina High School and was an outstanding athlete at Southern Methodist University. He was a stand-out football player and played in the Rose Bowl. Stanley was a Lieutenant pilot in the U.S. Marine Corps for B-25 Mitchell bombers. He was a member of the Marine Corps’ only squadron of large bombers where Marine pilots developed the tactic of low-level bombing and machine-gun strafing in jungle conditions. Stanley went missing on a flight from Canton Island in the Phoenix Islands to Tutila Island in the American Samoan islands. He was one of two pilots from Celina who lost their lives leaving Canton Island. Stanley is listed on the “Tablets of the Missing” at the Honolulu Memorial in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Augustus F. Reese, 26, of Josephine and Nevada was a Texas Tech graduate. He was a 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Pilot flying a P-38 Lightning in the 94<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron for the U.S. Army Air Corps. Augustus was killed in action near Cagliari, Sardinia in the Mediterranean Sea on May 14, 1943, when his plane struck the ground after strafing a train. Augustus is buried at Sam Houston National Cemetery in San Antonio, Texas. After the war, the citizens of Texas named Reese Air Force Base near Lubbock, Texas in his honor. This base is well known for training pilots for the U.S. military.

James H. Elliott, 22, of McKinney was a U.S. Army Staff Sergeant in the 9<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division. He landed at Normandy on D-Day and was part of the group bogged down in the countryside by earthen walls and tree canopy. Mr. Kimball portrayed the tree canopy in the background of this portrait as a nod to what the soldiers encountered. James was killed in action on July 29, 1944, at the battle of San Lo, France. He is buried in the Van Alstyne Cemetery.

Cecil Cleveland Waldrum, 27, of Collin County was a Corporal Paratrooper in the U.S. Army. He was in the 4<sup>th</sup> Company, 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment in the 1<sup>st</sup> Special Service Force. This was a handpicked unit of American and Canadian volunteers who would set the standard for all special ops units to come. Their story is somewhat told in the movie “The Devil’s Brigade”. This group wore a special red, white and blue cord as well as an arrowhead shaped patch on their uniforms. Cecil joined the regiment in early in 1942 and trained in Montana. He made amphibious assaults on Kiska, Alaska, Sicily and Anzio, Italy. His group saw some of the heaviest action in Europe and developed a fearsome reputation with the enemy. Cecil was killed in action on February 16, 1944, near Lazio, Italy by an artillery round. He was buried at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery in San Antonio, Texas on May 9, 1948. Since Cecil was part of the original Special Forces, several Green Beret veterans agreed to sit for Mr. Kimball to be included in the background of the portrait paying their respects to one of the founding members of the Special Forces.

1. **Consent agenda to approve:**

- a. AI-53102 Accept the donation of portraits of Collin County heroes, Commissioners Court.

Judge Hill honored the families of the six fallen warriors whose portraits were presented. He thanked Mr. Foster and Mr. Kimball who volunteer their time and resources to provide these portraits at no cost to the taxpayers. This is an opportunity for Collin County to honor those who have served and those who have paid the ultimate price for the freedoms we enjoy.

Judge Hill called to order the meeting of the Collin County Commissioners Court Special Session at 11:24 a.m. A motion was made to accept the gift of these portraits as a donation to the County. (Time: 11:24 a.m.)

Motion by: Commissioner Darrell Hale

Second by: Commissioner Susan Fletcher

Vote: 4 – 0 Passed

Court Order No. 2022-1186-11-07

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Court did not recess into Executive Session. There being no further business of the Court, Judge Hill adjourned the meeting at 11:24 a.m.

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1. Consent agenda to approve:

- a. AI-53102 Accept the donation of portraits of Collin County heroes, Commissioners Court.

Judge Hill honored the families of the six fallen warriors whose portraits were presented. He thanked Mr. Foster and Mr. Kimball who volunteer their time and resources to provide these portraits at no cost to the taxpayers. This is an opportunity for Collin County to honor those who have served and those who have paid the ultimate price for the freedoms we enjoy.

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Vote: 4 – 0 Passed

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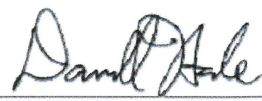
Not Present

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chris Hill, County Judge

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Susan Fletcher, Commissioner, Pct 1

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cheryl Williams, Commissioner, Pct 2



  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Darrell Hale, Commissioner, Pct 3

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Duncan Webb, Commissioner, Pct 4

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ATTEST: Stacey Kemp, County Clerk