

State of Texas	§	Court Order
Collin County	§	2025-xxx-12-08
Commissioners Court	§	

**An order of the Commissioners Court approving the filing of the November 10, 2025 Special Session minutes.**

On Monday, November 10, 2025 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

Absent:  
Commissioner Cheryl Williams, Precinct 2  
Commissioner Duncan Webb, Precinct 4

Judge Hill led the Invocation.  
Commissioner Hale led the Pledge of Allegiance.  
Commissioner Fletcher led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag.

Judge Hill called to order the **Special Session of the Collin County Commissioners Court** at 11:00 a.m.

Judge Hill began the session by recognizing those in attendance for the ceremony: Commissioner Darrell Hale, Commissioner Susan Fletcher, Texas State Representative Karesa Richardson, Councilman Eldon Baker of Anna, District Clerk Michael Gould, County Clerk Stacey Kemp, and Senior Judge Weldon Copeland. Judge Hill expressed pride in the Hall of Heroes project founded by Colin Kimball and the late R.D. Foster to honor fallen service members. He noted the display had grown from five portraits to 110, with 435 names on the list. Judge Hill then invited graphic artist, Colin Kimball, to come forward to present the portraits.

## COMMISSIONERS COURT SPECIAL SESSION BUSINESS:

Colin Kimball came forward to present the five portraits of Collin County Fallen Warriors to be put on permanent display. Mr. Kimball stated that he and the late R.D. Foster started the Hall of Heroes project together, with Mr. Foster laying the foundation that Mr. Kimball continues to build upon to this day. He stated much of his recent work focused on World War II, where the greatest number of local losses occurred, sharing personal gratitude for the Americans who liberated his mother during the war.

Dana T. Mudd-24, of McKinney, Flight Officer, 91st Squadron of the 439th Troop Carrier Group of the 9th Army Air Force. Originally from Edwardsville, Illinois, Mudd was married to the former Mary Snyder of McKinney before taking his oath of Enlistment in the United States Army in 1939 in McKinney. He served in various aircraft maintenance roles before earning his glider pilot wings at Dalhart, Texas, and was then promoted to Flight Officer. He piloted and landed a fully laden CG-4A Waco glider into an active combat zone near Groesbeck, Holland, during Operation Market Garden on 17 September 1944. He was killed in action when ambushed by German Soldiers a few days later. He is buried in Ardennes American Cemetery in Neupre, Belgium.

Floyd Earl White, Jr.-29, of Plano, 1st Lieutenant, Company G 2nd Battalion 442nd Regimental Combat Team, United States Army. White entered the Army after graduating from Texas Christian University. He served as a Company Commander for an all-Japanese American, known as the Nisei, Regiment sent to Europe. After recovering from wounds received while fighting in Italy in June 1944, he was killed in action in October 1944 while leading his men to rescue 211 Texans from the 141st Infantry Regiment of the Texas National Guard who were surrounded by Nazi forces in the Vosges Mountains in France. White, a Texan, was one of over 800 casualties from the Nisei troops who were fighting for the right to be Americans, who liberated 211 Texans from the Texas National Guard. He is buried in Restland Cemetery in Dallas. E Pluribus Unum.

Billy F. Commons -21, of McKinney, Lieutenant Junior Grade, 3rd Carrier Air Group, United States Navy. Star football player at McKinney High School and East Texas State University. A fighter attack pilot. He flew off the USS Yorktown (CV-10) and was killed in action on 14 December 1944 over Luzon, Philippines. Commons was awarded a Distinguished Flying Cross and remains missing in action. He is listed on the Tablets of the Missing in the Manila American Cemetery as well as on the WWII Memorial at the Texas A&M Commerce Football Stadium.

Thomas E. McKnight-35, of Anna, Captain Chaplain Corps, 7th Cavalry Division, United States Army. A minister at the Methodist Church in Anna, and finishing his Divinity Degree at Southern Methodist University, McKnight was called to serve his country after the attack on Pearl Harbor and received a Commission as a Captain to serve as a Chaplain in May 1942, where he was assigned to the 7th Cavalry Division. He accompanied the Division as it deployed to Australia in mid-1943 and participated in three Amphibious Landings. McKnight was killed in action in February 1944 in the Battle of Manila in the Philippines while trying to give aid to a wounded soldier trapped in an open, exposed position. He was awarded the Silver Star for Gallantry in Action and was laid to rest at the Manila American Cemetery in the Philippines.

Gary J. Lester-25, of Plano, Staff Sergeant, United States Marine Corps. Based at the former Naval Air Station Dallas, Lester was a Crew Chief with the 777th Marine Heavy Lift Helicopter Squadron flying on the CH-53 Sea Stallion. A veteran who deployed to the Persian Gulf during the fall of Tehran in 1978, Lester was deployed to the USS Guadalcanal LPH-7 to participate in a NATO exercise "Northern Wedding." On 14 September 1982, the Air-craft he was flying on, known as "Starship 402," suffered a catastrophic mechanical failure and crashed into the North Sea off the coast of Denmark after delivering its cargo on shore. The entire crew was lost and never recovered.

Judge Hill thanked Mr. Kimball for his dedication to the Hall of Heroes project, expressing pride in a tribute unmatched by other Texas counties. He noted the first floor was filled with portraits and that new displays would expand to the second and eventually third floors. Judge Hill said while it was bittersweet to need more space, the County was honored to continue the tribute and formally called the Commissioners Court to accept the portraits on behalf of Collin County.

**Public comments related to an item on the Agenda.**

**1. Consent Agenda Items:**

**a. AI-59153** Accept the donation of portraits of Collin County heroes, Commissioners Court

Judge Hill called to order a special meeting of the Commissioners Court. A motion was made to approve acceptance of the gift of these portraits as a donation to the County. (Time: 11:17 a.m.)

Motion by: Commissioner Darrell Hale

Second by: Commissioner Susan Fletcher

Vote: 3-0 Passed

**COURT ORDER NO. 2025-1215-11-10**

With no further comments, Judge Hill adjourned the meeting at 11:17 a.m.