

**A Proclamation Declaring May Drug Court Month**

**WHEREAS**, the Oklahoma County Drug Court program began in 1998 with the aim to divert individuals away from incarceration while guiding them to drug abstinence and helping them become more productive law abiding citizens.

**WHEREAS**, there are now nearly 4,000 treatment courts nationwide, and

**WHEREAS**, treatment courts are the cornerstone of justice reform sweeping the nation with taxpayers saving an estimated \$3.36 in criminal justice costs for every \$1 invested in Drug Court, along with \$3,000-\$13,000 in savings per client in court costs; and

**WHEREAS**, treatment courts have served more than 1.5 million individuals with 75 percent of graduates remaining arrest-free at least two years post-program; and

**WHEREAS**, treatment courts significantly improve substance use disorder treatment outcomes, substantially reduce addiction and related crime, and do so at less expense than any other criminal justice strategy; and

**WHEREAS**, treatment courts improve education, employment, housing, and financial stability, promote family reunification, reduce foster care placements, and increase the rate of addicted mothers delivering children who are fully drug free; and

**WHEREAS**, most importantly, treatment courts demonstrate that when one person rises out of substance use and crime, we all rise.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Oklahoma County Board of County Commissioners declare that Drug Court Month be established during the month of May.

**APPROVED** this 16<sup>th</sup> day of May 2022.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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CHAIRMAN

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VICE-CHAIRMAN

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MEMBER

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

DAVID B. HOOTEN, COUNTY CLERK