

**AGENDA ITEM 23**

Hear report on Child Welfare Board activities and consider approving a proclamation designating April as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

April Ray-Kerwin, Executive Director of the Williamson County Children's Advocacy Center in Georgetown, gave a report on Child Welfare Board activities, and read a proclamation recognizing Judge Ken Anderson's efforts as founder of the Children's Advocacy Center.

Moved: **Judge Doerfler**

Seconded: **Commissioner Boatright**

Motion: To approve a proclamation designating April as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Vote: 4 - 0. **Commissioner Hays was absent from the dais.**

< Attachment >

### Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation



WHEREAS, More than 522 children were abused and/or neglected according to the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services in Williamson County in the year 2001; and

WHEREAS, Child abuse prevention is a community responsibility and finding solutions depends on involvement among all people; and

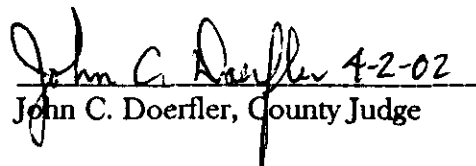
WHEREAS, Effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships among a variety of entities including but not limited to, schools, religious organizations, law enforcement agencies, child protective services, prosecution agencies, medical professionals, mental health professionals, children's advocacy centers, and other community based non-profit organizations; and

WHEREAS, Everyone in the community should become more aware of child abuse prevention and consider helping parents raise their children in safe, nurturing environments as well as supporting local professionals dedicated to meeting the needs of child abuse victims; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Commission's Court of Williamson County, recognizes and hereby proclaims the month of April 2002 to be Child Abuse Prevention Month

The Commissioner's Court of Williamson County, Texas urges all citizens to work together to reduce child abuse and neglect and to significantly improve the response of our community when child abuse occurs in the months and years ahead.

Proclaimed this second day of April, 2002.

  
John C. Doerfler, County Judge

Attest:

  
Nancy E. Rister, County Clerk

**AGENDA ITEM 24**

Consider approving a proclamation recognizing Judge Anderson's efforts as founder of the Children's Advocacy Center.

Moved: **Judge Doerfler**

Seconded: **Commissioner Boatright**

Motion: To approve a proclamation recognizing Judge Anderson's efforts as founder of the Children's Advocacy Center.

Vote: 4 - 0. **Commissioner Hays was absent from the dais.**

< Attachment >

### Judge Ken Anderson Proclamation



WHEREAS, Judge Ken Anderson, the Williamson County District Attorney from 1985 to 2002, recognized that child abuse victims did not have a safe place to tell about what happened to them;

WHEREAS, Judge Anderson saw traumatized child abuse victims shuffled from law enforcement offices, child protective services, prosecutors offices and other bureaucratic offices; and

WHEREAS, Judge Anderson recognized that abused children were being re-victimized by having to answer repeated questions to multiple civil and criminal investigators; and

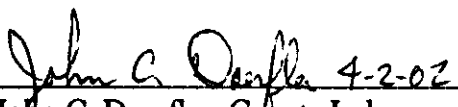
WHEREAS, Judge Anderson recognized that abused children needed a child friendly atmosphere to tell professionals trained in child development and linguistics about trauma they had experienced or witnessed; and

WHEREAS, Judge Anderson founded the Williamson County Children's Advocacy Center in 1997 for abused children and their families to have a home like setting to tell the professionals charged with investigating child abuse in Williamson County what happened.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Commission's Court of Williamson County, recognizes and hereby proclaims Judge Ken Anderson to be a friend for children and families in Williamson County

The Commissioner's Court of Williamson County, Texas recognizes that Judge Ken Anderson founded the Williamson County Children's Advocacy Center to help abused children and their families.

Proclaimed this second day of April, 2002.

  
John C. Doerfler, County Judge

Attest:

  
Nancy E. Rister, County Clerk