18,628

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FEB 13 2024

BECKY LANDRUM
County Clerke Hunt County, Tex.
By

## Proclamation

Whereas, according to the National Coalition Against Teen Dating Violence:

- Each year, around 12 percent of American high schoolers experience physical or sexual violence at the hands of an intimate partner;
- Dating violence can also occur on social media, online, and through other electronic communication in the form of cyberstalking, nonconsensual distribution of intimate images, and other technology-facilitated harms; and
- Teen dating violence is defined as "physical, sexual, or psychological / emotional abuse within a dating relationship among adolescents;" and

**Whereas**, if teenagers are instructed and shown proper relationships, the risk of violence in youth dating will go down; and

**Whereas**, if teenagers are educated on the consequences of actions that are classified as violence, the result will be awareness of dating violence and how to avoid it; and

**Whereas**, teen violence can easily occur through the use of technology and can greatly affect a teens mental state and harm them without ever physically talking to the offender; and

**Whereas**, those who are abused often don't leave the relationship for many reasons, such as fear that the abuser's violent behavior will escalate if he or she tries to leave; the hope that the abuser may change; or religious or cultural beliefs that prevent a person from leaving;

**Now, Therefore,** we, Commissioner's Court of Hunt County, Texas, do hereby proclaim the month of **February** as **Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month** in Hunt County and encourage all citizens to help raise awareness about teen dating violence in our community, to support organizations that aim to eradicate this crime and to assist those affected.

In Witness Whereof, I hereunto set my hand and official seal this 13th day of February 2023.

Judge Bobby W. Stovall

Commissioner Mark Hutchins

Philip Q. M. L.

**Commissioner David Monroe** 

Commissioner Steven Harrison

Commissioner Phillip Martin

Attest to:

Becky Landrum, County Clerk

