

WHEREAS, drug courts provide the focus and leadership for community-wide, anti-drug systems, bringing together criminal justice, treatment, education and other partners in the fight against drug abuse, criminality, and delinquency; and

WHEREAS, drug court programs combine judicial supervision, mandatory substance abuse treatment, drug testing, graduated sanctions and incentives in order to break the cycle of drug addiction and its concomitant crime and breakdown of families; and

WHEREAS, the judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, treatment and rehabilitation professionals, law enforcement and corrections personnel, researchers, educators, national community leaders, and others dedicated to the movement have had a profound impact; and,

WHEREAS, the drug court movement has grown from the original 12 in 1994 to over 2400 drug courts in operation or in the planning stages with Texas presently having 97 Drug Courts, and

WHEREAS, El Paso County is dedicated to reducing drug usage and crime with eight drug courts and two mental health courts in existence with The Honorable Yahara Lisa Gutierrez presiding for the 65th District Family Drug Court Program, The Honorable Oscar Gabaldon presiding for the 65th District Family Preservation Drug Court Program, The Honorable David C. Guaderrama presiding for the 243rd Judicial District Court Drug Treatment Program and the 243rd District Access to Recovery Drug Court Program, The Honorable Patrick M. Garcia presiding for the 384th Judicial District SAFPF Reentry Drug Court, The Honorable Sam Medrano presiding over the 409th Judicial District Juvenile Drug Court, The Honorable Robert S. Anchondo presiding over the County Criminal Court No DWI Drug Court Intervention and Treatment Program, The Honorable Ricardo Herrera presiding over the County Court at law#1 Mental Health Court and Veterans Mental Health Treatment/Intervention Program, The Honorable Terry Ligon presiding over the JPD Special Needs Diversionary Mental Health Court and The Honorable Lawrence Lujan presiding for the Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo Na Peuykam Chibel Juvenile Drug Court Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the El Paso County Judge and the El Paso County Commissioners' Court recognizes the month of May 2010 as:

“NATIONAL DRUG COURT MONTH”

Recognizing the practitioners and participants who make drug courts work, the significant contributions that drug courts have made, and continue to make in reducing drug usage and crime.

SIGNED this 4th day of May 2010.

Commissioner Anna Perez, Pct. 1

Commissioner Veronica Escobar, Pct.2

Commissioner Willie Gandara, Pct. 3

Commissioner Daniel R. Haggerty, Pct. 4

Anthony Cobos
El Paso County Judge