

Burnet County Commissioners Court Resolution Establishing and Appointing the Burnet County Adult Sexual Response Team

WHEREAS, SB 476 of the 87th Texas Legislature requires all Texas counties to form an Adult Sexual Response Team (SART) in an effort to create statewide infrastructure designed to increase awareness, connection, and coordination of local resources available to address sex crimes;

WHEREAS, the State of Texas believes the creation of Adult Sexual Response Teams will strengthen the collaborative response and enhance health and judicial outcomes for sexual assault survivors who are adults;

WHEREAS, SB 476 has been codified into Chapter 351, Subchapter J of the Texas Local Government Code requiring each Texas Commissioners Court to establish an Adult Sexual Assault Response Team;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Commissioners Court of Burnet County hereby establishes and appoints the statutorily mandates members of the Burnet County Adult Sexual Assault Response Team (hereinafter "Response Team") as follows:

1. Connie Steele, Program Director of the Highland Lakes Family Crises Center which provides a sexual assault program for Burnet County;
2. Chief Glenn Hanson or his designee as the Chief of Police of the largest municipality in Burnet County;
3. Sonny McAfee or his designee as the District Attorney in Burnet County;
4. Sheriff Calvin Boyd or his designee as the Sheriff of Burnet County;
5. Sherry Brown, Trauma Program Director Ascension Seaton Hospital System, Highland Lakes Hospital which is the largest health care provider operating within Burnet County;
6. Jennifer Wills, Emergency Room Manager Ascension Seaton Hospital System, Highland Lakes Hospital which is the largest health care provider operating within Burnet County;
7. Andrea Richardson, Executive Director of Bluebonnet Trails Community Services, or her designee as a behavior health services provider operating in Burnet County.

The Response Team shall have an initial meeting at a time and place to be set by the Burnet County Sheriff, Calvin Boyd. At the initial meeting, the members shall elect a Presiding Officer. Furthermore, the Response Team shall discuss and recommend to the Burnet County Commissioners Court the names of any other person considered to be necessary for the operation of the response team. Such persons shall be considered for membership. The Burnet County Commissioners Court shall also fill any vacancies of team members no longer than 30 days after the vacancy occurs and notice is provided by the Presiding Officer.

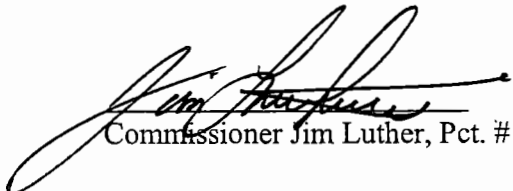
The Response Team shall meet at least quarterly at a time and date to be determined by the Presiding Officer. Further, the Response Team shall meet no later than 90 day after the last day of a regular legislative session in order to review and amend as necessary any protocols, forms, or guidelines developed. The Response Team shall also meet at any time called upon by the Presiding Officer.

Attendance at all quarterly meetings is required. If unable to attend any meeting, a team member or the entity from which the member belongs may designate another for that meeting.

The Response Team shall develop written protocol addressing the coordinated response for adult sexual assault victims in Burnet County as outlined under Chapter 351 Texas Local Government Code. The purpose of the protocol is to ensure coordination between all agencies involved in sexual assault cases to increase the efficacy of response and to minimize survivor traumatization.

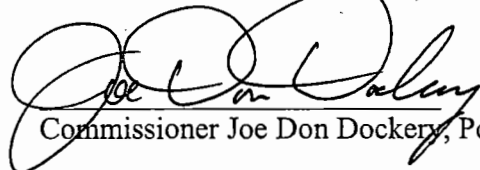
The Burnet County Commissioners Court also authorizes Burnet County Judge James Oakley to enter into any necessary interlocal agreements with any other counties within the 33rd and 424th Judicial Districts to form a multicounty response team that shall include these same Response Team Members as well as those assigned by the other counties joining. The formation of a multicounty response team is authorized by 351.252(b) Texas Local Government Code.

Approved on this 21st day of December, 2021 by the Burnet County Commissioners Court.


Commissioner Jim Luther, Pct. #1


Commissioner Damon Beierle, Pct. #2


Commissioner Billy Wall, Pct. #3


Commissioner Joe Don Dockery, Pct. #4


Hon. James Oakley, County Judge

ATTEST: 
Janet Parker, County Clerk