

Webb County Resolution No. 4/28/2025 - Item # _____

**Operation Lone Star Alternative Public Defense Program Approval and an
Addendum to the Webb County Indigent Defense Plan**

WHEREAS, Webb County has declared an emergency and formally joined the Governor's Operation Lone Star (OLS) program; and

WHEREAS, indigent individuals arrested under OLS facing misdemeanor charges are entitled to appointed counsel;

WHEREAS, the State of Texas has funded the Lone Star Defenders Office (LSDO) through a Texas Indigent Defense Commission (TIDC) grant to provide counsel to indigent defendants charged with the following offenses if an OLS nexus is present:

- Charges related to criminal trespass or evading arrest, and other offenses directly related to the same incident; and
- Charges related to Chapter 51 of the Texas Penal Code;
- Misdemeanor charges related to smuggling or trafficking of person described in Chapter 20 or 20A of the Texas Penal Code; and other offenses directly related to the same incident.

WHEREAS, the State of Texas through TIDC is funding the costs for LSDO's operation, appointed counsel, investigative expenses, and expert witnesses;

WHEREAS, there is no fiscal impact to Webb County for the operation of the LSDO Alternative Public Defense Program;

WHEREAS LSDO's grant application to the TIDC contains the details of the Alternative Defense Program's plan of operation; and

WHEREAS, the majority of judges with misdemeanor jurisdiction in Webb County have adopted an OLS addendum to the indigent defense plan to provide a countywide alternative program, pursuant to Texas Code of Criminal Procedure Article 26.04(g)-(h), authorizing LSDO to provide counsel, experts, and other resources for the defendants charged with one or more of the above listed offenses;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Commissioner's Court of Webb County approves of LSDO operating an Alternative Public Defense Program for the enumerated OLS cases without any cost being incurred by the County.

Adopted on this the _____ day of _____, 20____

ATTESTED:

Honorable Webb County Judge,
Tano E. Tijerina

Honorable Margie Ramirez-Ibarra,
Webb County Clerk