



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, our elderly population are vital and integral members of our society and their wisdom and experience have enriched our lives; and

WHEREAS, abuse and exploitation of the elderly in domestic and institutional settings are wide-spread problems, affecting hundreds of thousands of people across the country; and

WHEREAS, Texas Adult Protective Services In-Home Caseworkers in Williamson County investigated 1,284 allegations of which 388 cases of Abuse, Neglect and/or Exploitation were confirmed against our elderly Texans in 2020; and

WHEREAS, elder abuse, which happens to men and women of all income levels, all cultural and ethnic groups, in good health or incapacitated in some way, and across every type of community, is grossly underreported because the elderly who are being abused, find it very difficult to tell anyone, are usually ashamed, sometimes afraid, or may not be aware that someone they trust is taking advantage of them, or, in fact, not understand they are being abused; and

WHEREAS, the Williamson County Attorney's Office serves an important role in the investigation and prosecution of elder abuse and exploitation, and they also have a strong victim services program to assist those who have been targeted for the abuse;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Williamson County Commissioners Court proclaim May 2021 to be Elder Abuse Prevention Month in Williamson County and urge all citizens to work together to help reduce abuse and neglect of people who are elderly and encourage all residents to regularly check in with their elderly family members and neighbors to ensure their well-being.

Signed on this date: _____

Bill Gravell, County Judge

On behalf of the Williamson County Commissioners Court