



C.O.# 134020

COMMISSIONERS COURT
COMMUNICATION

REFERENCE NUMBER 0

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DATE: 10/20/2020

SUBJECT: **APPROVAL OF A GRANT APPLICATION AND RESOLUTION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 INDIGENT DEFENSE FORMULA GRANT PROGRAM**

***** CONSENT AGENDA *****

COMMISSIONERS COURT ACTION REQUESTED:

It is requested that the Commissioners Court approve the electronic submission of the FY 2021 Indigent Defense Formula Grant application and Resolution to the Texas Indigent Defense Commission for the FY 2021 formula grant program.

BACKGROUND:

The Texas Indigent Defense Commission provides financial and technical support to counties to develop and maintain quality, cost effective indigent defense systems that meet the needs of local communities and the requirements of the Constitution and state law. Formula grants are awarded to eligible Texas counties to help counties meet constitutional and statutory requirements for indigent defense and to promote compliance with standards adopted by the Commission. Attorney fees, investigator and expert witness expenditures, and other litigation expenses paid by the County on behalf of indigent criminal defendants/ juvenile respondents are allowable.

The amount each county is eligible to receive is based upon the respective county's FY 2001 baseline amount spent on indigent representation.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Upon acceptance of the electronic grant application and Resolution by the State, the County will receive partial reimbursement of expenses incurred due to the enactment of the Fair Defense Act and ensuing Indigent Defense Program.

SUBMITTED BY:	County Administrator's Office	PREPARED BY:	Kandice Boutte
		APPROVED BY:	

**2021 Tarrant County Resolution
Indigent Defense Grant Program**

WHEREAS, under the provisions of the Texas Government Code Section 79.037 and Texas Administrative Code Chapter 173, counties are eligible to receive grants from the Texas Indigent Defense Commission to provide improvements in indigent defense services in the county; and


WHEREAS, this grant program will assist the county in the implementation and the improvement of the indigent criminal defense services in this county; and

WHEREAS, Tarrant County Commissioners Court has agreed that in the event of loss or misuse of the funds, Tarrant County Commissioners assures that the funds will be returned in full to the Texas Indigent Defense Commission.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED and ordered that the County Judge of this county is designated as the Authorized Official to apply for, accept, decline, modify, or cancel the grant application for the Indigent Defense Formula Grant Program and all other necessary documents to accept said grant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Auditor is designated as the Financial Officer for this grant.

Adopted this 20th day of October, 2020.



B. Glen Whitley
County Judge

Attest:



County Clerk