

Resolution



ORDER NO. **2004 1403**

DATE: August 17, 2004

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF DALLAS §

BE IT REMEMBERED, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 17th day of August, 2004, on motion made by Margaret Keliher, County Judge and seconded by John Wiley Price, Comm. of Dist. #3, the following Resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, the Texas Task Force on Indigent Defense was created by the 2001 Fair Defense Act and charged with supporting counties in reaching the directives of the new law relating to the defense of indigents; and

WHEREAS, in 2003 the Task Force contacted the Dallas County Public Defenders Office and offered to conduct a study of the Public Defender System, which has been in existence since 1983; and

WHEREAS, at Dallas County's request, in the Fall of 2003 the Task Force contacted Spangenberg Group, a research and consulting firm that specializes improving indigent defense systems, to conduct a review of the Public Defender's Office; and

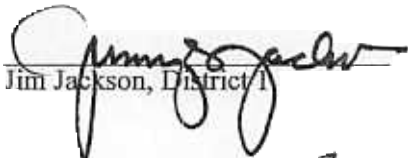
WHEREAS, following the study of the Dallas County system and on-site visits, The Spangenberg Group has issued a comprehensive report; and


WHEREAS, the report offers observations on the progress Dallas County has made and recommendations for improving Dallas County's system of indigent defense by its Public Defender's Office

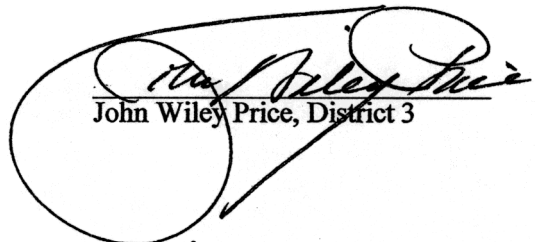
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Dallas County Commissioners Court hereby expresses appreciation to the Texas Task Force on Indigent Defense, Director James Bethke, and to The Spangenberg Group for their work to assist in improving Dallas County's system of indigent defense.

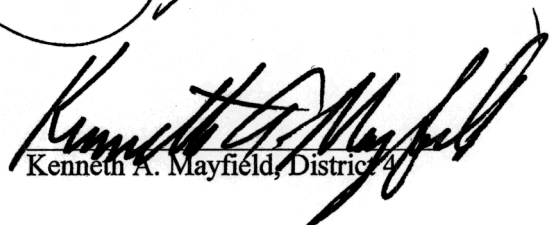
DONE IN OPEN COURT this the 17th day of August, 2004.


Margaret Keliher, County Judge


Jim Jackson, District 1


Mike Cantrell, District 2


John Wiley Price, District 3


Kenneth A. Mayfield, District 4