



A Proclamation by Ellis County Judge Todd Little in Observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, 2022

WHEREAS, born in Atlanta, Georgia on January 15th, 1929, Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was raised to be a faith leader from a young age; and

WHEREAS, coming of age in a time and place in which everyday life was characterized by racial segregation, King chose not to give into the temptations of hatred and resentment, but instead built up the bonds of brotherhood with all who would afford him basic human dignity, black or white; and

WHEREAS, acting upon his convictions with a firm reliance on God, King accepted nomination to become the pastor of Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama, where he helped organize the Montgomery Bus Boycott of 1955 in protest of the city's segregation policies; and

WHEREAS, shortly after the success of the Montgomery Bus Boycott, King organized the Southern Christian Leadership Conference to conduct non-violent demonstrations against segregation; and

WHEREAS, after being imprisoned as a result of his participation in these demonstrations in Birmingham, King refused to give up hope that his dream of desegregation and brotherhood would eventually prevail – not just in the South, but across America and world; and

WHEREAS, in one of the greatest speeches in the history of American oration, King inspired the nation with his eloquent “I have a Dream” speech before a crowd of thousands in Washington, D.C. on August 28th, 1963; and

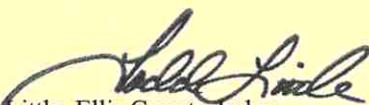
WHEREAS, following his “I Have a Dream” speech, King continued to advocate for peace, unity, and mercy among men and nations, while threats, intimidation, and conspiracies by vigilantes and governments alike did not deter him from his vision; and

WHEREAS, King was assassinated for his beliefs on March 29th, 1968 – but not before he began to witness the historic unifying of white and black America as one nation under God; and

WHEREAS, in memory of King's monumental achievements to inspire America to become a truer version of itself – the first nation which declared to the world that “all men are created equal” – President Reagan officially recognized Martin Luther King, Jr. Day as a federal holiday in 1983;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that I, Ellis County Judge Todd Little, proclaim and observe Monday, January 17th, 2022 as Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in Ellis County, Texas.

In witness thereof, signed the 14th of January, 2022 –


Todd Little, Ellis County Judge