

**C. Resolution - Fentanyl Awareness Day (Judge O'Hare)**

## **Resolution**

### **Fentanyl Awareness Day**

WHEREAS, every year the Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office provides forensic, investigative, and autopsy services related to hundreds of drug overdose deaths; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, 38% of the drug-related deaths reviewed by the Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office involved fentanyl. So far in 2024, 71% of the drug-related deaths evaluated by the Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office were fentanyl related deaths; and

WHEREAS, many street drugs and pills are laced with fentanyl. Fentanyl is found in much of the cocaine and methamphetamine tested within the Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office, with users often unaware the drug they consumed contained this potent opioid, which is 50 times more potent than heroin; and

WHEREAS, National Fentanyl Awareness Day brings together individuals, parents, teachers, corporations, influencers, community groups, medical professionals, law enforcement, and government entities to help confront this national crisis. Last year, more than 70,000 Americans fatally overdosed on illegally manufactured fentanyl; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Commissioners Court of Tarrant County, do hereby recognize May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 as Fentanyl Awareness Day in Tarrant County and urge the citizens of Tarrant County to help put an end to this emergency.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and caused the Seal of Tarrant County to be affixed this 7<sup>th</sup> day of May 2024.