



**COMMISSIONERS COURT
COMMUNICATION**

COURT ORDER NUMBER _____

PAGE 1 OF 6

DATE: 11/19/2024

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST TO USE THE FAMILY LAW CENTER ASSEMBLY ROOM AND WAIVE RENTAL FEES FOR THE RALLY FOR EDUCATION 30TH ANNUAL SANTA GOES TO JAIL EVENT

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

COMMISSIONERS COURT ACTION REQUESTED

It is requested that the Commissioners Court consider the request to use the Family Law Center Assembly Room on December 13, 2024 and waive the rental fee for the Rally for Education 30th Annual Santa Goes to Jail Event.

BACKGROUND

Santa Goes to Jail is an annual event sponsored by Rally for Education and the Clifford Davis Legal Association. The purpose of the event is to educate youth from local school districts about the law and to enhance education about the judicial system. Santa Goes to Jail is a play that allows students to experience every aspect of a criminal trial, with students playing all major roles associated with court proceedings. Lunch is served and a gift bag is distributed to each student which includes socks, wool gloves, a hat or scarf, book bags, books, school supplies, etc. In addition, there is an essay contest in conjunction with the event, and prizes are given to winners.

This event has previously won the Nancy Garms Award from the State Bar of Texas recognizing outstanding contribution to law-focused education in the State of Texas.

The event is free and all items are either donated or money is raised separately for the event. The sponsoring entities do not have any employees. Speakers and participants include local District Judges and other elected officials, teachers, and citizens.

An indemnification letter has been signed and submitted by Rally For Education President, Bobbie Edmonds.

Tarrant County has supported the Santa Goes to Jail event for over twenty (20) years by making a large County meeting room available.

FISCAL IMPACT

Tarrant County will waive the \$1,000.00 rental fee.

SUBMITTED BY	Domestic Relations	PREPARED BY:	Virginia Garcia
		APPROVED BY:	Clint Dupew

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Bobbie Edmonds
Vice President
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Executive Director
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September 18, 2024

Ms. Virginia Garcia
Domestic Relations Office
Tarrant County Family Law Center
200 East Weatherford Street
Fort Worth, Texas 76196

Email: VRGarcia@tarrantcountytx.gov

RE: 30th Annual Lawyers and Youth Christmas Event
Friday, December 13, 2024 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Dear Ms. Garcia:

Per your emailed communication, we are acknowledging the procedures for reserving the Assembly Room and are providing the requested information for your consideration to wit:

1. **The name of the sponsor or sponsoring organization.** Rally for Education, Inc., L. Clifford Davis Legal Association and The Law Office of Bobbie Edmonds
2. **The purpose of the event.** To educate youth from local school districts about the law and to enhance their education about the judicial system. Santa Goes to Jail is a play/courtroom drama written by Attorney Bobbie Edmonds to teach students about the dynamics of a jury trial. The play allows the students the opportunity to experience every aspect of a trial with them playing all of the major roles associated with a court proceeding. Simultaneously, we encourage them to be diligent, persistent and dedicated to their studies during the primary and secondary educational process. Another important facet of the event is to teach them to respect one another, obey the law, avoid drugs, weapons and other criminal behavior. Lunch is served and a gift bag distributed to each student. Approximately 150 students attend the trial each year. Further, we provide the students with a pair of socks, a set of wool gloves, a wool hat or scarf for ages 10 - 12 years old in gift bags. We also given them educational items, book bags, books, school supplies, etc. The winners of the essay contest are announced during the event and they win prizes including bikes, eBooks and schools supplies. During the past few years, Sherriff Bill Waybourn has generally given stuffed animals to the kids. We look forward to those stuffed animals again in 2024.

Rally for Education, Inc.

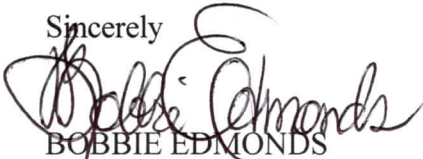
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E-mail: rallyforeducation@goodverdict.com

3. **A statement that the event will not be for profit. If there is a profit, a statement of the enrollment fee and the estimated profit.** The event is free for parents, students, and all who attend. We pay for all prizes, food and gifts for the 150 plus students and attendees. We also receive some small donations from individuals and local businesses. All donations go towards the purchase of prizes, gifts, and food for the students for the event.
4. **A list of the participants: speakers, presenters, and intended audience.** Over the years we have had local judges, Judge Kenneth Newell, Judge Jerome Hennigan, Judge Mike Sinha, Judge Cynthia Mendoza, Judge Bob McGrath, Judge Timmie White, Judge L. Clifford Davis, Judge Tom Vandergriff, State Representatives, Glenn Lewis and Marc Veasey, and others, along with the students, teachers/counselors, and parents from the participating FWISD and Crowley ISD schools, the participants are local attorneys, citizens, parents, grandparents, business professionals and some elected officials. I have attached last year's news article to give you an idea of this special event. Surprisingly, I received a State Bar of Texas acknowledgment through the Law-Related Education Section during the State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting Bar Leaders Luncheon in June 2019. The Nancy Garms Award was created to recognize individuals or groups for their outstanding contribution to Law Focused Education in the State of Texas. During the COVID-19 Pandemic, the event, although much smaller, was held at an area school.
5. **A list of employees of Santa Goes to Jail or the entity producing the event.** There are no employees. Santa Goes to Jail is a play coordinated and sponsored by Rally for Education, Judge L. Clifford Davis Legal and Attorney Bobbie Edmonds. With the help of volunteers, other local attorneys and their staff, schoolteachers, counselors and principals from the participating schools, the event is presented.
6. **A completed indemnification statement (attached).** See attached
7. **A letter from the sponsor requesting use of the facility and stating why this particular facility is best suited for the event and a request to waive the \$1,000 daily rental charge.** See attached

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us at 817.332.6501.

Sincerely



BOBBIE EDMONDS

Rally for Education, Inc. — President

Enclosures

President
Bobbie Edmonds
Vice President
Ollie Faggett
Secretary
Faye Watson
Treasurer
Julius Carter
Parliamentarian
Betty Lewis



Board Members

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Ms. Virginia Garcia
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Tarrant County Family Law Center
200 East Weatherford Street
Fort Worth, Texas 76196

Email: VRGarcia@tarrantcountytx.gov

RE: 30th Annual Lawyers and Youth Christmas Event
Friday, December 13, 2024 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Dear Ms. Garcia:

This letter serves as a request for the Law Offices of Bobbie Edmonds and other lawyers to use the 2nd Floor Assembly Room in the Tarrant County Family Law Center located at 200 East Weatherford Street, Fort Worth, Texas from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for the 30th Annual Lawyers and Youth Christmas Event, Santa Goes to Jail, to be held on Friday, December 13, 2024. Our inaugural post COVID event was a success and we are anxiously waiting to return better than ever!

If you have any questions or need additional information, you may contact us at (817) 332-6501 or email us at rallyforeducation@goodverdict.com

Thank you in advance for your attention and cooperation in this matter. We look forward to your continued support.

Sincerely,

Bobbie Edmonds

BOBBIE EDMONDS
Attorney at Law and
President of Rally for Education, Inc.

Rally for Education, Inc.

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RELEASE, INDEMNIFICATION AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

THAT I, the undersigned BOBBIE EDMONDS, hereby **RELEASE** and **HOLD HARMLESS** Tarrant County, Texas ("County") and all of its officials, officers, agents and employees in both their public and private capacities, from any and all claims, losses, damages, causes of action, suits and liability of every kind that may arise from any of their act(s) and/or omission(s) that may occur as a result of my request to seek their help, assistance, and/or service in connection with THE EDUCATIONAL LEGAL DRAMA Santa Claus Goes to Jail to be held on December 13, 2024 at from 8 am to 2 pm at the Tarrant County Family Court Building on 200 East Weatherford Street.

It is further agreed that the execution of this "**Release, Indemnification And Hold Harmless Agreement**" will not constitute a waiver by the County of the defense of governmental immunity where applicable, or any other defense recognized by law and/or the courts of the State of Texas.

SIGNED this the 17th day of September, 2024.

Signature: .

Printed Name: BOBBIE EDMONDS, Attorney at Law

Address: Water Garden Place, 100 East 15th St. Suite 410, Ft. Worth, TX 76102

Phone: 817.332.6501 fax 817.332.6599