

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
ROCKDALE COUNTY TO PROVIDE THE STATE COURT OF ROCKDALE COUNTY
WITH AN ALTERNATE FACILITY OUTSIDE THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE TO
CONDUCT JUDICIAL SESSIONS.**

WHEREAS, O.C.G.A. Section 15-6-18, provides that the governing authority of a county by appropriate resolution may, when in the best interest of the public, authorize any session of a state court to be held at an alternate facility outside the county courthouse when it is impractical to hold said court session in the courthouse; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 508, effective January 1, 2022, created an additional associate judge of the State Court of Rockdale County; and

WHEREAS, with the creation of the new judgeship, there are five (5) judges utilizing only four (4) courtrooms within the Rockdale County Courthouse; and

WHEREAS, over the last two years, the Rockdale County judicial system, like many other courts world-wide, has been affected and slowed by the COVID 19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, in order to best serve the public, there is an urgent need to move criminal and civil matters efficiently, effectively and safely through the judicial system; and

WHEREAS, the government of Rockdale County owns a large meeting space at the JP Carr Community Center, 981 Taylor Street, Conyers, Rockdale County, Georgia 30012, which is located less than a mile from the Rockdale County Courthouse; and

WHEREAS, said meeting space is large enough to effectively and safely, through social distancing and Rockdale County Sheriff Office guard and support, accommodate Rockdale County State Court hearings and jury trials; and

WHEREAS, said meeting space is wired for technology, allows for public access, including access for those members of the public who may be physically or mentally impaired, and has a back meeting area that can be converted to a jury deliberation room; and

WHEREAS, Rockdale County State Court Associate Judge Richard Read has communicated that it will be impractical at times for his court to operate because of the shortage of Rockdale County Courthouse courtroom space and has requested that the Board of Commission authorize said JP Carr meeting space as an alternative facility for conducting State Court hearings and jury trials;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 15-6-18, by the Board of Commissioners of Rockdale County, to hereby authorize the use of the JP Carr Community Center meeting space as an alternative facility for conducting sessions of the State Court of Rockdale County.

[SIGNATURES CONTINUED TO NEXT PAGE]

SO AUTHORIZED this 08th day of February, 2022.

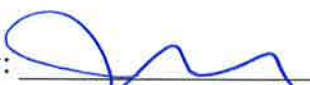
**Rockdale County, Georgia
Board of Commissioners**

By: 
Osborn Nesbitt, Sr., Chairman

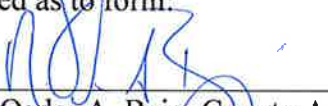
By: 
Sherri L. Washington, Post 1

By: 
Dr. Doreen L. Williams, Post 2

Attest

By: 
Jennifer Rutledge, County Clerk

Approved as to form:

By: 
M. Qader A. Baig, County Attorney