NEWS RELEASE

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Major Victory Secured for Election Security in Williamson County, Texas

WILLIAMSON COUNTY, Tx– Citizens Defending Freedom (CDF) in Williamson County is proud to announce a significant victory in the pursuit of election integrity. After nearly a year of diligent advocacy, CDF has successfully championed the implementation of Pre-printed Consecutively Numbered Ballots for the upcoming November 2024 elections.

Despite initial resistance from the elections office, a turning point was reached on June 24, 2024, when the Texas Secretary of State issued an advisory on ballot numbering requirements. Recently, Williamson County Judge Bill Gravell issued a statement:

"I am strongly in favor of Williamson County using consecutively numbered ballots in the November 2024 election and will give my full support to our elections administrator in order to make this happen. The right to ballot secrecy is an integral part of our voting system which we cannot allow to be compromised. I want to thank the members of the public who have been reasonable and kind in providing input regarding our election process. One of our residents has offered to pay the additional cost for consecutively numbered ballots, and I am appreciative of the offer. If this is the desire of the elections administrator, I will move to accept this offer."

"A HUGE win and a step in the right direction for WilCo voters in securing the integrity of our future elections and protecting the secrecy of our ballots!" said Marcia Watson, Executive Director of Williamson County Citizens Defending Freedom.

CDF-Williamson County's collaboration with local experts and continuous dialogue with county officials culminated in presenting a detailed list of election improvements, which played a crucial role in securing this outcome. CDF Williamson County will remain dedicated to working alongside our elected officials to ensure the highest standards of election integrity in Williamson County.

<u>Marcia Watson has been working tirelessly on election integrity.</u> She was recently involved in an intense pressure campaign from Citizens Defending Freedom that led to the passage of <u>HB</u> <u>5180</u> in the Texas state Senate on May 24. The bill ensures that cast vote records and digital images of all voted ballots are made available to the public the day after election canvassing is finished or no later than the 15th day after the election. The new measure is meant to ensure that citizens have access to voting records, which they can use to inspect for fraud.

Watson will be available for questions at a press conference following Commissioners Court July 2nd on the Old Courthouse steps, 710 S. Main Street, Georgetown, TX.

Citizens Defending Freedom will continue its efforts to implement additional measures from their proposed solutions, reinforcing its mission to restore trust in elections. CDF applauds Williamson County and hopes more counties will move to using consecutive numbered ballots.

About Citizens Defending Freedom:

Founded in 2021, Citizens Defending Freedom is a non-profit organization that strategically operates in counties across America to help citizens defend their faith and freedom, all while fighting for transparency in local government. Currently, Citizens Defending Freedom is established in Florida, Georgia, Michigan, and Texas, with plans to continue expanding across America. <u>Click here</u> to learn more about Citizens Defending Freedom.