

# PROCLAMATION

## Waller County Commissioner's Court Honoring the Prairie View A&M University Men's Basketball Team 2026 SWAC Tournament Champions & NCAA First Four Victors

**WHEREAS** the Waller County Commissioner's Court proudly recognizes the extraordinary achievements of the 2025–2026 Men's Basketball Team of Prairie View A&M University, whose season stands as one of the most historic in program history; and

**WHEREAS** under the leadership of Head Coach Byron Smith, supported by his exceptional coaching staff and operations team, the Panthers embodied discipline, unity, and the highest standards of Panther excellence; and

**WHEREAS** the Panthers captured the 2026 Southwestern Athletic Conference Tournament Championship, defeating Southern University 72–66 in Atlanta and securing the league's automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament; and

**WHEREAS** Prairie View A&M University earned its third NCAA Tournament appearance and its first in seven years, continuing a legacy that began with historic trips in 1998 and 2019; and

**WHEREAS** the Panthers achieved a first-ever NCAA Tournament First Four victory, defeating the Lehigh Mountain Hawks and advancing to the Round of 64; and

**WHEREAS**, the team displayed courage and resilience throughout the season, with standout performances from Tai'Reon Joseph, Dontae Horne, and Hassane Diallo, whose contributions exemplified the spirit of Prairie View A&M University excellence; and

**WHEREAS** though the Panthers fell to the top-seeded Florida Gators, the season will be remembered not for its final score, but for its milestones, its resilience, and its championship character;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Waller County Commissioners Court, upon the recommendation of The Honorable Kendric D. Jones, County Commissioner, Precinct 3, does hereby extend its highest commendation to The Prairie View A&M University Panther Basketball Team, Coaches, and Staff whose dedication elevated the program to new heights and recognition for the university, Waller County and the State of Texas; and

**BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED**, that this season shall be recorded in the proud history of Prairie View A&M University as a testament to Panther excellence, unity, and the unbreakable spirit of "Prairie View Produces People."

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF** the Waller County Commissioners do hereby set my hand and cause the Seal of Waller County to be affixed this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.  
*Signed,*

**The Honorable Carbett "Trey" J. Duhon III**  
Waller County Judge

**The Honorable John A. Amsler**  
Waller County Commissioner, Precinct 1

**The Honorable Walter E. Smith**  
Waller County Commissioner, Precinct 2

**The Honorable Kendric Jones**  
Waller County Commissioner, Precinct 3

**The Honorable Justin Beckendorff**  
Waller County Commissioner, Precinct 4

**ATTEST:**  
**The Honorable Debbie Hollan**  
County Clerk