

Municipal Courts Week 2015 Activities By City

Albany

I had TXDOT bring their rollover convincer to our high school last Wednesday (to coordinate with Red Ribbon Week). It was a success! We will be doing a presentation for the elementary school as well. I also have a lot of handouts and give-a-ways at the front counter for this week.

Amarillo

City of Amarillo is participating in Municipal Court Week. Activities include a breakfast Monday for employees and lunch Friday as well as a daily gift card give-away for employees. Also, have tables set up in the lobby filled with traffic safety materials and information.

Bastrop

Mayoral proclamation on November 3.

Bay City

Thank you so much for sending us the free materials for our Municipal Courts week “Story Hour” event. It was, for the most part, a smashing success. Tuesday through Friday of last week we had two nearby private day schools bring their 3 & 4 year old classes to our “Story Hour”. We read them “Be Careful Lulu”, “Safe Not Smart” and “A Day in Municipal Court”. The children also got to meet one of our officers, Vickie Pursley and one of our detectives, Chris Cunningham from Bay City Police Dept. They spoke to the kids about what Police officers do, how they are here to help and that police officers are our friends. It was truly a neat experience. We opened up each session to Q & A and got some really silly questions and comments from these kiddos. Our own Honorable Judge Suzan Thompson also made an appearance in her judge’s robe as well. In years past, Bay City Municipal Court hasn’t really gotten involved in our community and that was something I wanted to change when I took the position of Court Administrator. Thanks to you, TMCEC and TXDOT for providing fun, informative, FREE, materials for us to give them!! Each child left our court with 2 story books, 1 “A Day in Municipal Court” coloring book and a “talk, text, crash” bracelet. They were so excited to visit us and to leave with fun, free goodies. Thank you again for everything that you contributed to help make our event a great success. We are looking to make this an annual event with the field trip kids. While our public story hour from 4-5 p.m. didn’t see as many visitors, we were still able to reach a few and give them free items as well. This was my first attempt at an event for Municipal Courts week. To my knowledge, we have never participated before and this was an awesome learning experience for what we hope to accomplish in the future.

Boerne

Boerne Municipal Court will be participating. In addition to having a table in the lobby full of information and goodies for our customers, we have something planned each day of the week for the clerks:

Monday – Flowers

Tuesday – Celebrate card with 2 jean passes

Wednesday – Pizza Lunch, Mayor presenting proclamation during court

Thursday – TCCA Travel Blanket for each clerk

Friday – Bear Moon Bakery for breakfast

Brenham

We are having a luncheon during municipal courts week.

Brownsville

The Brownsville Municipal Court is going to participate in the Municipal Courts Week and we are going to have a proclamation next City Commissioners' meeting (Tuesday, November 3, 2015) and we are planning to have informative workshops, a bulletin board with safety literature, court information, judges information, etc. during the week. In addition, TMCEC and Save a Life sent me promotional items that we will be given away during those days. Also, we are going to have donuts and coffee for our defendants, citizens and our staff.

We also got a Bingo game from Save a Life grant and we may give it away to the citizen that attends to all the workshops through the week.

College Station

October 22 our mayor signed a proclamation for MCW.

November 2 through November 6. Supervisors recognized each employee with a week of giving (23 participants):

Placed a "THANK YOU" sign across the 6 foot doorway, by the coffee station.

Decoration around the Thank You sign was a picture of a gavel personalized with each persons' name on it.

Monday – "Gold Star" Balloons, soda, & candy placed at each desk or station

Tuesday – Single serve individual chocolate chip cake given to each person

Wednesday – Chick-fil-a Breakfast trays for all to enjoy

Thursday – Personalized muffins for each person

Friday – Theatre size boxed candy placed at each desk or station

We will also have a clerk ballot box to nominate a clerk of the year, (supervisors are excluded from being nominated).

Winner will receive a certificate of appreciation, and a gift card.

Corsicana

I provided breakfast for the clerks all week and Judge Russell sent flowers to all staff. Very nice.

De Kalb

Serving coffee and cookies

Denison

Municipal Court week is celebrated annually the first week in November. The City of Denison Municipal Court began their celebration Monday night at City Council meeting with a Proclamation to such from Mayor Jared Johnson on behalf of the city. Court staff and both Judges were in attendance.

Tuesday night, November 3rd, an informal dinner at Girasoles was enjoyed by immediate staff on behalf of Finance Director and Assistant Director Renee' Waggoner and Laurie Alsabbah!

Thursday afternoon, November 6th, a reception was held in the Council Chambers / Court Room hosted by all court staff including Judge Phillip Shaffer and wife Carol, and Associate Judge Don Banman and wife Debbie. Janna Parker's husband Dan and Tame Corson's daughter, Kori were on hand to help with refreshments and displays. Additionally, Kori shared her photography skills by taking pictures that will be submitted to the Texas Municipal Courts Education Center in Austin. A guest list of over 300 people was compiled of all local filing agencies, County Departments of Juvenile Services and Health Department, the many non-profit agencies that benefit from the court ordered community service, all city employees, city council and court staff.

Great refreshments were served and scattered throughout multiple displays of information concerning court procedures, etc. An especially fun table was made available with cartoons featuring each filing agency and a Q & A BOARD in a cartoon fashion. Free goodies provided by TXDOT were added to this table.

Academy Sports + Outdoors donated a 32oz YETI tumbler given away by a drawing at the end of the reception. This helped to provide a record of attendance.

The goals of creating an awareness of the contributions the Municipal Court makes to the community and recognizing new ways to better serve its many filing agencies were attained.

Forest Hill

We set up posters, and give aways, our pledge, and material on the dangers of drinking and driving. Had Candy on our tables in lobby for visitors. We hosted lunch for all city staff honoring the Municipal Court Employees. Then we ended the week by participating with our Forest Hill Police Department and walking in the WALK LIKE MADD 5k on the Saturday following MCW.

Gatesville

The City of Gatesville will be participating in celebrating Municipal Courts week. Our Mayor, Gary Chumley, is going to sign the Proclamation designating November 2nd through November 6th as Municipal Courts Week at the next city council meeting. We have also requested a box of goodies to give away to customers. That is all that we have planned as of right now.

Georgetown

We had a catered luncheon, pizza, ice cream sundaes, and breakfast tacos. We did not have all of these things in one day, thank goodness. They were spread out during the week.

Granite Shoals

The Granite Shoals Municipal Court celebrated Municipal Courts week with Judge Frank Reilly taking the court staff to lunch.

Haltom City

We will be closing for lunch on Thursday, November 5 during lunch to take all the court staff to lunch. We will also play bingo throughout the week for prizes. The Judge will hand out candy in court to defendants to celebrate Municipal Courts Week.

Henderson/Mount Enterprise

Mt. Enterprise and Henderson Municipal courts had a luncheon with both city council members. The court clerks from both cities were recognized as well during that time. BBQ ribs, chicken, baked beans, and potato salad were provided, along with old-fashioned tea cakes.

Hollywood Park

We began the week with a proclamation from the mayor, sweet bread for breakfast, and small gifts for the clerk and everybody that helps during court. We had a display in the lobby with free books, calendars and candy. On Wednesday we had a presentation by the Judge and Prosecutor on texting and driving and drunk driving. We had the Fatal Vision goggles to simulate intoxication for the people to wear and try to walk and also had a distracted driving simulator to demonstrate texting and driving. We provided cookies, lemonade, and a raffle for all who attended. The City also provided lunch to the court staff. Thank you TMCEC for providing books and traffic safety materials.

Houston

See link to flyer on previous page.

Ingleside

Ingleside Municipal Court participated in Municipal Courts Week!!

As part of the event, the public was invited to enjoy refreshments while taking a tour of the Municipal Court. We encouraged the public to ask questions and get educated in court procedures.

Irving

Today at city council work session, our Mayor read a proclamation touting the accomplishments of our court and declaring Municipal Courts Week in November. Our court director, Wayne Lambert and Judge Rodney Adams were in attendance and recognized 7 of our court clerks for their accomplishments in completing their state court clerk certifications. Three clerks were recognized as being certified level 1 instructors.

In honor of Municipal Court Week, the City of Irving Municipal Court celebrated in a variety of ways. First and foremost, our mayor made a proclamation at a Council Work Session designating the week's importance. From there, court management staff and the judges decided on a "Blast from the Past" theme. Each day of the week was represented by a different decade. We encouraged staff to dress for the decade and educated them on different legislative and local court events that happened during that time period. We displayed information that included when significant laws were passed, when TMCEC and TCCA were founded, when the state began charging court costs for the first time and more! We also set-up a timeline of prior presiding judges for Irving, when staff was born and when they began working for the Court. Each day we brought in different treats to represent that day's theme.

Monday – The Poppin' Sixties

The Parks and Rec Department delivered a popcorn machine for us to celebrate the "poppin'" 60's all day.

Tuesday – The Hot Diggity Seventies

The Parks and Rec Department also delivered a hot dog machine for us to provide staff with "hot diggity dogs" for lunch.

Wednesday – The Totally Rad Eighties

We brought back BIG hair, side ponytails, hair bands and punk rock clothes. We also brought in pizza and soda to celebrate.

Thursday – Back to the Nineties

The 90's were back and so was Blue Bell. We brought in ice cream and celebrated with triple scoops and floats.

Friday – The Fabulous Fifties

We were cool like Fonzie and we flip-flop-flapjacked back to the 50's with pancake Friday. We made and served fresh pancakes for all of staff.

Killeen

Killeen Municipal court will have a table set up in the lobby every day that week handing out safety items to the community, Tuesday were hold a safety class for all juvenile with traffic this class with done by the state trooper that work with us. Thursday were doing a event at the court where the teen court program is putting on a mock trial, the Mayor will be reading the proclamation and we will have fire trucks, ambulance, police car for the community to look at and will have safety handout, popcorn and games for the community to have. Also see link to flyer on previous page.

La Marque

- Mayor provided the judge with a proclamation before the council meeting on October 26, 2015 recognizing Municipal Courts Week.
- Pizza Luncheon
- Traffic safety materials given out to public
- Display in lobby traffic safety educational poster

Lacy Lakeview

Reception in the Courtroom

Lake Dallas

Mayoral proclamation

League City

We have a table in the lobby of coloring books, hi-lighters, and other handouts received from TMCEC to give to citizens.

Staff was provided lunch on Monday and Thursday.

Magnolia

Magnolia Municipal Court will be celebrating Municipal Court Week this year by opening up our court and newly remodeled clerk's office for tours to the community.

We invited the local elementary schools and Intermediate school's student council to come take a tour of our court. We will be talking to the kids about court procedures, trial procedures, gun safety and traffic safety, specifically distracted driving. We will be showing children appropriate short movies regarding the dangers of driving distracted. We will be providing little goody bags with treats and educational information about distracted driving to bring home to their parents, including a DVD copy of the distracted driving movies that we are going to show to the children. We are hoping to teach the young children early what could happen and the lasting consequences of driving distracted so that when they do start driving, they will not develop bad distracted driving habits. We also want the children to encourage their parents to drive safely when their children are in the car or not and point out to their parents when they are driving and doing something else that is distracting that could cause an accident.

We will also be having our annual luncheon to show our support and appreciation for our court personnel and police officers.

Manvel

On Monday, October 26, 2015 our Mayor presented us with a Proclamation during the City Council meeting.

McKinney

Thank you for providing us supplies. Yes the McKinney Municipal Court is participating in this year's Court Week. Some in our staff have worked diligently to schedule and plan some events and we hope to start planning earlier next year for increased events and participation. Below are our events for this year:

November 2 - Breakfast for court staff (staff will dress in 50s theme)

November 3 - Fun in-house activities (staff will dress in Circus theme)

November 4 - Mock trial at McKinney High School (staff will dress in Disney theme)

November 5 - Anti-impaired driving simulators at Boyd High School. We will have a table with supplies TMCEC provided (staff will dress in Nerd theme)

Municipal Court Display table at State of City Address

November 6 - Court will close at 11:30 am and lunch will be provided for all court staff, judge, prosecutor, and marshals. (staff will dress in Sports theme)

Team building exercise from 1 pm to 4 pm

Melissa

See link to flyer on previous page.

Mesquite

We are planning to participate in Texas Municipal Courts Week by doing several activities on that week. I'm just now emailing you because I just got the ok from the all the five high schools in our city to have our senior court clerk, a deputy court clerk and two Mesquite Marshals in

their schools promoting “traffic safety”. We plan to be giving out “traffic safety” materials in exchange for answering law-related questions. In addition, we will be using the “impairment goggles” for the students to try on and see how being impaired can affect one’s perception and accuracy. We have the permission to do this during their lunch breaks. The clerks will have a decorated table with the materials/goodies and the marshals will be doing the impairment goggles game. They will be attending one school per day on that week. We will have also have a decorated table in our lobby with “traffic safety” brochures and pamphlets with candy attached and the clerks will be handing “traffic safety” goodies to defendants that come to our windows that week. On Wednesday, November 4th our plea docket will only have traffic cases and Judge Crane will be showing a short video to promote “traffic safety” at the beginning of the dockets.

- Attending the 5 City of Mesquite high schools during their lunch breaks to promote traffic safety. One school per day during the Texas Municipal Courts Week (attached are 2 pictures from Horn High School today).
- We have installed a decorated table at our lobby with traffic safety material.
- The window clerks are handing traffic safety reading books to the children that come with the citizens.
- The presiding Judge was interviewed by a local radio station and the interview is being aired several times on the Texas Municipal Courts Week
- The Mayor will present a proclamation recognizing the week of November 2 - November 6, 2015, as *Municipal Court Week*, and further extend appreciation to all City of Mesquite Municipal Judges and court support personnel for the vital services they perform and their exemplary dedication to our community. I call upon all residents of the City of Mesquite to join with the City Council in recognizing the vital service they perform and their exemplary dedication to the communities they represent
- Breakfast will be provided to the Municipal Courts Clerks.
- Clerk of Year – 2015 will be awarded with a plaque and a paid day off.
- The presiding Judge will be showing a short 3 minute YouTube video called “Everybody Hurts Speeding” with CC in Spanish at the beginning of his 2 dockets on November 4th.

Pearland

Pearland Municipal court is participating in Municipal Court Appreciation week. We send articles to the newspapers; staff appreciation lunch; the mayor will come to give a proclamation to the department; and tokens of appreciation are given to the staff every day of the week.

Poth

Will be doing a presentation with the Poth Police Department at our local School for students enrolled in Pre-K thru the 5th Grade.

Richardson

We will be hosting a Court Personnel Appreciation Luncheon on November 4.

Seguin

Mayor Keil will be signing a proclamation Monday afternoon.

South Padre Island

Proclamation issued by the city council.

Texarkana

Texarkana made treat bags which included the free materials sent to the court. These were given to folks throughout the week at the pay window. On Wednesday the staff enjoyed a veggie tray, fruit, cheese/crackers and Chex mix. We had several games for the staff such as guess the number of marbles in the jar, guess the number of M&M's in the container and guess how many Municipal Courts there are in Texas. Prizes were given to the winners.

Texas City

Monday - We will be hosting the TCCA – Gulf Coast Chapter Legislative Update.

Tuesday - We will provide lunch for staff.

Wednesday – Mayor Doyle will present the court with a Proclamation at Commissioners Meeting.

Thursday – Staff will get a little PRIZE!

Universal City

Universal City will be celebrating MCW with a proclamation at the city council meeting on 11/4. In addition, we will be presenting "swag bags" to the volunteers who help out the court, as a thanks for all they do for us throughout the year. I will try to send pictures.

Van Horn

The Town of Van Horn Municipal Court will participate in MCW. We plan for our Mayor to make the proclamation. We also plan to host a Q & A session.

Venus

For Municipal Courts Week we did hand out “a day in the life of a Municipal Court” coloring books, as well as other educational materials. The court also made a “Municipal Courts Week” poster with traffic safety information and tips and placed it in the court lobby. The court clerk

was able to visit the Primary and Elementary schools and give them “Safe Not Sorry” and “Don’t Monkey Around with Safety in a Car” books for their classrooms. Lastly were able to visit with the Venus High School Government teacher and have made plans to hold a mock trial in his classroom.

Victoria

Monday-Flowers

Tuesday-Breakfast and Proclamation Signed by Mayor presented at council

Wednesday-Taco Soup and Cornbread

Thursday-Root Beer and Big Red Floats

Friday-Fall Wall hanging

Watauga

Proclamation by Mayor and City Council and Municipal Court Luncheon recognizing our staff and volunteers who support us.