

**Sexual Assault Awareness Month
Proclamation - April 2026**

WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month calls attention to the fact that sexual harassment, assault, and abuse are widespread and impacts women, men, and children of all racial, cultural and economic backgrounds in this community; and,

WHEREAS, rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment harm our community, as reflected in national statistics showing that an American is sexually assaulted every 68 seconds, and that one in five women and one in thirty-three men experience sexual assault at some point in their lives; and,


WHEREAS, with leadership and dedication, we can be successful in preventing sexual assault in East Texas by increasing education, awareness, and community involvement; supporting survivors and speaking out against harmful attitudes; and,

WHEREAS, in 2025, the Women's Center of East Texas provided services to 177 survivors of sexual assault, and recognizes and honors the strength and resilience of those survivors while emphasizing the importance of compassionate support, advocacy, and resources to aid in their healing; and,

WHEREAS, Upshur County strongly supports the efforts of national, state, and local partners, as well as the commitment of its citizens, to actively engage in both public and private initiatives aimed at preventing sexual assault; and encourages all members of the community to take action, support survivors, and work together to create a safer environment for everyone.

NOW THEREFORE, the **UPSHUR COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT** does hereby encourage the citizens of **Upshur County** to take an active role in the effort to end sexual assault. IN recognition of these efforts, and in partnership with the United States Government and the State of Texas, **WE, HEREBY** proclaim the month of April 2026 as **SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH** in Upshur County, Texas.

PROCLAIMED this the 15th day of APRIL 2026 by the Upshur County Commissioner's Court.



TODD TERTELLER, Upshur County Judge



GENE DOLLE, Commissioner, Pct. 1



DUSTIN NICHOLSON, Commissioner, Pct. 2



MIKE ASHLEY, Commissioner, Pct. 3



JAY W. MILLER, Commissioner, Pct. 4