

# County of Nueces



**CAROLYN VAUGHN**  
Commissioner  
Precinct 1

**JOE A. GONZALEZ**  
Commissioner  
Precinct 2

**JOHN MAREZ**  
Commissioner  
Precinct 3

**BRENT CHESNEY**  
Commissioner  
Precinct 4

**BARBARA CANALES**

County Judge  
Nueces County Courthouse, Room 303  
901 Leopard Street  
Corpus Christi, Texas 78401-3697

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## COMMISSIONERS COURT RESOLUTION “Recognizing the Je’Sani Smith Foundation”

**WHEREAS**, the Je’Sani Smith Foundation was founded on March 16, 2020 by Ms. Kiwana Denson and Mr. Terrance Denson in honor of their son, Je’Sani Smith, who tragically lost his life to a rip current in 2019; and,

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the Je’Sani Smith Foundation is to save lives by providing education, awareness and water skills training on beach safety, rip currents and other coastal hazards; and,

**WHEREAS**, the goal of the Je’Sani Smith Foundation is to eliminate the number of deaths, rescues and illnesses due to rip currents and other coastal hazards by raising awareness and providing water safety training and education programs to safety personnel, students, community organizations and beachgoers; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Je’Sani Smith Foundation set up two scholarship funds in 2019, the “Del Mar College Memorial Scholarship Fund” and the “Je’Sani Smith Water Scholarship”, for King High School students; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Je’Sani Smith Foundation partnered with Nueces County to formally proclaim the month of July as “Beach Safety and Rip Current Awareness Month” in Nueces County; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Je’Sani Smith Beach Safety Task Force is an essential function of the Foundation. The Task Force hosts monthly meetings of interested stakeholders including the Foundation Board of Directors, state, county, and city elected officials and employees, lifeguards, school officials, teachers, students, and community members; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Je’Sani Smith Foundation created the website [www.saniwet.com](http://www.saniwet.com) in memory of the late Je’Sani Smith, as well as the Je’Sani Smith Beach Safety Alert Facebook page to alert the public of beach safety hazards; and,

**WHEREAS**, members of the Je’Sani Smith Foundation spoke to various area middle schools, high schools, and 4-H clubs about beach safety and rip current awareness; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Je’Sani Smith Foundation partnered with the City of Corpus Christi to purchase rip current awareness cards and wristbands for distribution at area beaches, schools and businesses; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Je’Sani Smith Foundation partnered with Nueces County and the City of Corpus Christi to provide for rip current hazard alerts to the public through the Reverse Alert system; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Je’Sani Smith Foundation and Nueces County partnered with the Texas Department of Transportation to utilize their electronic mobile messaging boards to promote rip current awareness during Spring Break 2020. The Nueces County Coastal Parks Department has since obtained an electronic mobile messaging board of its own to alert beachgoers of rip current hazards on a more permanent basis; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF NUECES COUNTY**, that the Court hereby recognizes the Je’Sani Smith Foundation for its work in promoting rip current and beach safety awareness.

**DULY ADOPTED BY VOTE OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF NUECES COUNTY, TEXAS, ON THIS THE 27th DAY OF MAY, 2020.**

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**BARBARA CANALES**  
Nueces County Judge

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Commissioner, Precinct 4

ATTEST:

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**KARA SANDS**, County Clerk