



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

TO: PRESS RELEASE

FROM: TREY DUHON, WALLER COUNTY JUDGE

DATE: SEPTEMBER 21, 2016

RE: MEDIATED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT REACHED WITH BLAND FAMILY

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Hempstead, Texas - A mediated settlement has resolved claims against Waller County by the family of Sandra Bland. In regards to the settlement, Waller County Judge Trey Duhon stated, "Waller County administrators have learned a great deal through this process and the County will be increasing the training and education of jail employees in respect to mental health assessments in jail and improving our policies and processes, and in fact we have already begun that process." Duhon added, "Waller County is glad to put this lawsuit behind us so that we can focus on becoming a role model in Texas for improving how we deal with mental health issues in our jail system, in addition to putting our time and energy back into the community where it belongs."

Other than a \$1,000 deductible, no taxpayer funds have been used to satisfy claims in this matter. Waller County is a longstanding member of the Texas Association of Counties Risk Management Pool, which is led by a board of elected county officials from across the state and has provided liability coverage for more than 40 years.