## **PROCLAMATION**

## In Support of National Treatment Court and Mental Health Awareness Month

WHEREAS, there are now more than 4,000 treatment courts nationwide; and

WHEREAS, treatment courts are the cornerstone of justice reform sweeping the nation; and

WHEREAS, treatment courts have served more than 1.5 million individuals; and

WHEREAS, they are recognized as the most successful justice system intervention in our nation's history; and

WHEREAS, they save an average of \$6,000 for every individual they serve; and

WHEREAS, treatment courts substantially reduce addiction and related crime, and do so at less expense than any other criminal justice strategy; and

WHEREAS, there are five treatment courts in Carson City; Misdemeanor Treatment Court presided by Judge Tom Armstrong, Mental Health Court presided by Judge Kristin Luis, Western Regional DUI Court and Drug Court presided by Judge Peter Breen and Judge Archie Blake, and Juvenile Drug Court presided by Juvenile Magistrate Kimberly Okezie; and

WHEREAS, treatment courts facilitate community-wide partnerships, bringing together public safety and public health professionals to improve education, employment, housing, promote family reunification, reduce foster care placements, and increase the rate of addicted mothers delivering babies who are fully drug/alcohol free; and

**WHEREAS**, treatment courts demonstrate that when one person rises out of substance use and crime, we all rise;

*NOW, THEREFORE, I,* Lori Bagwell, Mayor of Carson City, Nevada, on behalf of the Board of Supervisors, do hereby proclaim that May 2023 be established as National Treatment Court and Mental Health Awareness Month.

Dated this 18th day of May 2023.

Lori Bagwell, Mayor