Collin County
Going the **E**xtra **M**ile (**GEM**) Recognition Form

Honoree's Name: Amy Patterson

Honoree's Job Title: Court Coordinator

Department:493rd District Court

Years of Service with the County: ~ 3 years

Why the Honoree is receiving a GEM Award including dates:

In 2026, the Presiding Judge of the 493rd District Court also assumed the role of Local Administrative Judge (LAJ) for Collin County. At the time of this transition, the Court Administrator position became vacant, leaving the LAJ without the administrative support that position had previously provided.

Recognizing the need to ensure a smooth transition and the continued success of the LAJ, Ms. Patterson stepped in and assumed many of the tasks and responsibilities traditionally handled by the Court Administrator. In particular (but in no way limited to), she took responsibility for the administrative and logistical tasks necessary for the LAJ to host judges' meetings and ensured that the LAJ was fully prepared each week to attend Commissioners Court and effectively interact with other County departments.

These responsibilities were well beyond the scope of Ms. Patterson's regular position and are ordinarily associated with a position compensated at a substantially higher level. Nevertheless, she never complained about the additional workload or questioned whether it was her responsibility. Instead, she consistently stepped up whenever she was needed and approached these additional duties with the same professionalism, dedication, and positive attitude that she brings to her regular responsibilities. Her willingness to take on these responsibilities was invaluable to me as the LAJ.

In addition, the 493rd District Court was engaged in a week-long jury trial in September 2026 when our official court reporter unexpectedly became ill and was unable to continue. Amy immediately stepped in to help Daryl Morris locate a substitute reporter and coordinated with the attorneys regarding necessary changes to the trial schedule when we initially were unable to find one. Amy went above and beyond—giving up previously planned time off to help the Court and do whatever was necessary to keep the trial moving forward. Her willingness to sacrifice her own

time and step in during a critical situation was instrumental in allowing the trial to proceed as scheduled.

The 493rd District Court could not have managed this situation without Amy. Her initiative, flexibility, and unwavering commitment to supporting the Court made an immediate and meaningful difference to the litigants, attorneys, jurors, and the Court.

Approved by elected official or department head on the 2nd day of Nov., 20 26

Signature of Elected Official
or Department Head

Christine Nowak
Printed Name