

Collin County Going the Extra Mile (GEM) Recognition Form

Honoree's Name: Danni Bernal

Honoree's Job Title: Legal I & Internship Program

Department: District Attorney

Years of Service with the County: 1 year

Why the Honoree is receiving a GEM Award including dates:

For the Summer Internship Program, Danni decided to personally go speak with every single Misdemeanor and Felony Prosecutor that was supervising our interns for both Summer Session 1 and Session 2. The purpose of the meetings was to determine the strengths and weaknesses of each of our interns while they were still attending our internship program, rather than waiting until the internship program ended like we typically do.

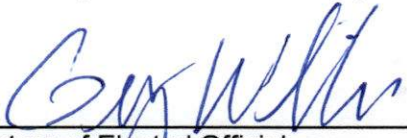
Because of Danni's efforts, both Nick and Ann were able to get in real time reviews of which interns were doing a good job. We then used this information for recruiting purposes. For the interns that were performing well, this gave us the opportunity to go speak with this interns and try to sell them on why they should come back to our office next Summer. We did this to help convince certain rising 2L's to come back as interns again next Summer, and we also used this to help convince certain rising 3L's on why they should come back and post bar with us next fall.

This ability to speak with our high performers in real time and convince them to come back next summer proved invaluable. We were able to offer 2027 Fall Post Barships for 10 of our interns that are rising 3L's. Since we've made those offers, 8 of those 10 interns have already accepted our offer and confirmed that they would like to come back and post bar with us next Summer. We would not have been able to do this if it weren't for Danni.

Once we identified the interns that we wanted to come back and postbar next Summer, we needed these interns to both apply for the position online, upload all of their required documents, and then we needed to run a full background check on each one of them.

Danni coordinated with Wes to make sure that in many instances we had same day turnarounds for our background checks. This allowed us to offer some of those postbars while they were still with our office, which made the offer that much more meaningful for our postbars.

Approved by elected official or department head on the 17 day of September, 2026.



Signature of Elected Official
or Department Head

Greg Willis

Printed Name