

# PROCLAMATION

## HONORING WILLIAM RUSSELL (RUSS) GRAVES ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE INDIAN RIVER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES FIRE RESCUE DIVISION

**WHEREAS**, Russ Graves retires from Indian River County Emergency Services Fire Rescue Division on February 28, 2021; and,

**WHEREAS**, Russ Graves began his distinguished career in public service with Indian River County as an Emergency Medical Technician on August 30, 1989; and,

**WHEREAS**, he rose steadily through the Emergency Medical Service (EMS) ranks by becoming a Paramedic in 1990, Lieutenant Paramedic in 1993, and upon EMS consolidation with Fire Rescue in 2006, he diligently sought and obtained his Firefighter Certificate of Compliance on April 13, 2007 and on June 7, 2013 was promoted to Engineer Paramedic in which capacity he served until retirement; and,

**WHEREAS**, Russ Graves mentored hundreds of fellow Firemedics in his capacity as an EMS Field Training Officer not only expertly teaching the mechanics of saving a life but also the active listening skills needed to ensure victims and their families would feel safe; and,

**WHEREAS**, Russ Graves is well known through-out the department and community for his immeasurable knowledge, dedication and compassion for his work which is well documented in countless commendations from his superiors, grateful patients, local businesses, schools and colleges; and,

**WHEREAS**, Russ Graves' career embodied all the hallmarks of a great Firemedic: devotion to duty, dedication to his fellow first responders and genuine love for the community in which he has served for over 30 years.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA**, that the Board extend our sincerest gratitude to Russ Graves for his thirty plus years of unwavering service, commitment and dedication greatly contributing to the safety of our community with determination, commitment, brotherhood and pride.

**BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED** that the Board of County Commissioners and staff extend heartfelt wishes for success in his future endeavors.

Adopted this 9<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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Joseph E. Flescher, Chairman