

March 10, 2026
ITEM 15.D.1

**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Board of County Commissioners

DATE: February 25, 2026

SUBJECT: Discussion of Dedicating 64th Avenue in Honor of Sylvester McIntosh

FROM: Chairman Joseph E. Flescher
Commissioner, District 2

I respectfully request an open discussion with my fellow Commissioners regarding the potential dedication of 64th Avenue in honor of Sylvester McIntosh, a longtime Indian River County resident, Vietnam War veteran, and community leader.

Mr. McIntosh, a graduate of Gifford High School, enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 1966 at age 18. He served with the 1st Battalion, 9th Marines during the Vietnam War, a unit known for sustained combat and extraordinary resilience.

On May 13, 1967, during a fierce ambush, then-squad leader McIntosh repeatedly entered heavy enemy fire to rescue wounded Marines. Unknown to others, he had already been shot in the chest during his first attempt. Despite his injury, he continued returning to the kill zone to carry fellow Marines to safety and shield them with his own body before collapsing. For these actions, he was later awarded the Silver Star, one of the nation's highest military honors for valor.

After his military service, Mr. McIntosh devoted his life to serving others through ministry and community leadership. He spent decades preaching throughout the region, earned a doctorate in religious education, and has helped guide and mentor future clergy across Florida. Now residing in Wabasso, he remains widely respected for his lifelong commitment to service, faith, and community.

Dedicating 64th Avenue in his honor would recognize both his extraordinary courage in service to our country and his enduring contributions to the people of Indian River County. I look forward to discussing this request with the Board and receiving your feedback on how you wish to proceed.