

# PROCLAMATION

## Supporting the Annual Vero Beach Tunnel to Towers 5K Run & Walk

*Whereas*, on September 11, 2001, FDNY Firefighter, Stephen Siller, laid down his life to save others when America was attacked. For over 20 years, the Tunnel to Towers Foundation has honored Stephen's legacy by supporting the heroes who continue to risk life and limb in the line of duty; and

*Whereas*, the foundation's major programs involve gifting mortgage-free homes to Gold Star families who have lost a loved one in the line of duty as well as assisting catastrophically injured veterans with specially adapted smart homes to enhance their quality of life; and

*Whereas*, to date, Tunnel to Towers has delivered over 1,000 mortgage-free homes and committed over \$500 million to multiple organizations that assist families of injured or fallen first responders including relief efforts in response to natural disasters and this year the Foundation is delivering over 200 mortgage-free homes and more than 3,000 housing units to combat veteran homelessness; and

*Whereas*, the Tunnel to Towers Foundation made a promise to "NEVER FORGET" those lost on 9/11 and the continued impact the attacks have on America and its first responders. To keep that promise and educate future generations, the Foundation engages people in events across America; and

*Whereas*, the first Tunnel to Towers race held in Indian River County was in September of 2013 and this year's 12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary race will be held at Riverside Park in Vero Beach on September 7, 2024, with the continuous support from the Indian River County Fire Rescue and local law enforcement agencies.

*Now, Therefore, be it Proclaimed by the Board of County Commissioners of Indian River County, Florida* that Indian River County is proud to support the Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation and encourages participation in this patriotic event that celebrates and actively appreciates first responders and military service members who serve, save and sacrifice on our behalf every day.

Adopted this 20<sup>th</sup> day of August 2024.

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

---

Susan Adams, Chairman

---

Joseph E. Flescher, Vice Chairman

---

Joseph H. Earman

---

Deryl Loar

---

Laura Moss