

PROCLAMATION

HONORING DEBORAH GEE ON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE INDIAN RIVER COUNTY OFFICE OF THE TAX COLLECTOR WITH 38 YEARS AND 8 MONTHS OF SERVICE

WHEREAS, Debbie retired from the Indian River County Tax Collector's Office effective June 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, she was employed with Tax Collector's Office since October 21, 1981, starting her career as a switchboard operator and finishing as Director of Taxes and Licenses; and

WHEREAS, Debbie has served the County, the State, and the public with distinction, dedication, and selflessness, earning praise from both current and former Tax Collectors and her co-workers; and

WHEREAS, Debbie has been praised by Tax Collector Carole Jean Jordan, who stated, "Debbie Gee is everything for which a resident visiting our office could hope -- patient, kind, knowledgeable, and experienced. She is a talented leader with a love of service to humanity. Her signature combination of warmth and decades of experience uniquely positioned her to be an asset to our office and community. Her retirement leaves a void in our office that cannot be replaced"; and

WHEREAS, Debbie has been praised by Clerk of the Circuit Court Jeff Smith, who stated, "I congratulate Debbie on a spectacular career. She has been the rock for four tax collectors and one pain-in-the-butt Assistant Tax Collector (that would be me). Her tax knowledge and constant regard for the taxpayers define the phrase "public servant." She has the admiration of her staff and respect from her supervisors. She has consistently given her all for our residents; it's an honor to have worked with her and call her a friend"; and

WHEREAS, Debbie has been praised by former Tax Collector Charles Sembler, who stated, "Debbie Gee, by far, is one of the best, most intelligent, hard-working public servants I've had the honor and privilege to work with. She has always conducted herself with dignity and grace, and sincerely feels empathy for the public that she has served so well. Indian River County is a better place because of her"; and

WHEREAS, Debbie was praised by former Tax Collector Karl Zimmerman, who stated, "Debbie is extremely tax-knowledgeable from both a technical and historical prospective. Debbie was always a team player and respected manager. She only disappointed once, when she declined to run as my replacement!"

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA, that the Board applauds her efforts, expresses its appreciation for the dedicated service she has given to Indian River County for the last **38 years and 8 months**, and extends heartfelt wishes for success in her future endeavors!

Adopted this 5th day of January, 2021.

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

Joseph E. Flescher, Chairman