

Proclamation

HONORING TYRONE MCGRUFF, SR.

Whereas, Indian River County celebrates African American Pioneers who, through their service in the business, public, and elected arenas, have paved the way for this and future generations; and

Whereas, the late Tyrone McGriff, Sr., was born on January 13, 1958, to Harry and Dollie McGriff and attended Vero Beach High School, where he became a legendary player under coach Bill Wilson; and

Whereas, Tyrone would enroll at Florida A&M University and mature into one of the most decorated players ever at FAMU as a three-time Division I-AA All-American offensive lineman; and

Whereas, Tyrone was selected in the 1980 NFL Draft and played three seasons in the NFL before moving to the USFL, winning the inaugural USFL Championship as a member of the Michigan Panthers; and

Whereas, Tyrone began his coaching career in 1986 under FAMU's Hall of Fame coach Ken Riley and coached at four universities in total before assuming the duties of head football coach at Dillard High School and then Fort Lauderdale High School, where he helped lead many young men out of poverty and into college or their chosen career fields; and

Whereas, during his time as a professional football player and coach, Tyrone would regularly rent facilities to provide quality entertainment opportunities for local youth, a passion that led him back to his hometown of Vero Beach; and

Whereas, in Vero Beach, Tyrone served as director of the Gifford Youth Activity Center, where he arranged travel to the polls for elderly voters, set up after school tutoring, and helped many young Gifford residents find enriching academic, recreational, and physical fitness options outside of school; and

Whereas, Tyrone was inducted into both the College Football and Black College Football Halls of Fame, but left perhaps his most lasting legacy as a mentor to the young, both locally and nationally.

Now, therefore, be it proclaimed by the Board of County Commissioners of Indian River County, Florida, that the pioneer spirit and civic contributions of Tyrone McGriff, Sr., have made a lasting impact on Indian River County and the Treasure Coast, and that the Board posthumously extends its sincere thanks to Tyrone's family for his outstanding efforts in our community.

Adopted this 7th day of February, 2023.

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

Joseph H. Earman, Chairman

Susan Adams, Vice Chairman

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