

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-30

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BONIFAY, FLORIDA, OPPOSING POTENTIAL RESTRUCTURING OR GEOGRAPHIC CHANGES TO THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN NORTHWEST FLORIDA.

WHEREAS, the City Council is aware of the State's consideration of making changes to Florida's judicial circuits including the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit that encompasses the City of Bonifay; and

WHEREAS, according to the most recent annual Florida Department of Law Enforcement County and Municipal Offense Data for Bonifay, the Bonifay Police Department experienced a 38.8% drop in crime rate and achieved a 100% clearance rate; and

WHEREAS, law enforcement officers, prosecutors, public defenders, judges and private attorneys are overwhelmingly and successfully accessing their criminal and civil cases through the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit ensuring swift and fair justice to our citizens.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BONIFAY, FLORIDA:

Section 1. The foregoing "Whereas" paragraphs are hereby ratified and confirmed as true and are made an express part of this Resolution.

Section 2. The City Council hereby opposes any changes to the geographic boundaries of the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit and any dilution in the access our citizens have to the rights and protections afforded them and us under the Florida and United States Constitutions; and

Section 3. We have sworn allegiance and defense of the Constitutions.

Section 4. We urge everyone join us in opposition to changes to our Circuit.

RESOLVED after due motion, second and discussion in open session this_____ day of August, 2023.

ATTEST:

CITY OF BONIFAY, FLORIDA

By Rickey Callahan, City Clerk

By its Mayor, Dr. Emily Rone McCann

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Michelle Blankenship Jordan
City Attorney