

CITY OF COACHELLA
CALIFORNIA

Proclamation

WHEREAS, after more than 10 years of service, Berlinda Blackburn has announced her retirement from the City of Coachella effective December 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, she is originally from Helena, Arkansas, home of the King Biscuit Blues Festival; and

WHEREAS, although she was accepted to the Ohio State University, her mom insisted she attend Ashland University where she studied pre-medicine; and

WHEREAS, Berlinda is a certified licensed water treatment and distribution operator with the State of California. She is also certified with the California Water Environment Association (CWEA) in environmental compliance inspection and collection system maintenance; and

WHEREAS, Berlinda started with the City of Coachella on March 14, 2011, as the Environmental/Regulatory Program Manager after leaving the City of Riverside and moving to the Coachella Valley; and

WHEREAS, Berlinda updated the Consumer Confidence Report by incorporating a citywide calendar with revolving themes each year. Acting as the conservation coordinator, she developed the City's conservation program including rebate and outreach programs. And, she helped design the regional fat, oils, and grease (FOG) brochure that area wastewater agencies use (and won Outreach Program of the Year by CORBS); and

WHEREAS, her proudest accomplishments are that of mom and bibi (Kiswahili for grandma). She thanks her husband Patrick Blackburn for being the reason she moved to the Coachella Valley and the reason she took the opportunity to work for the City of Coachella; and

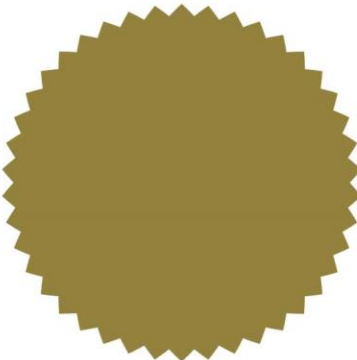
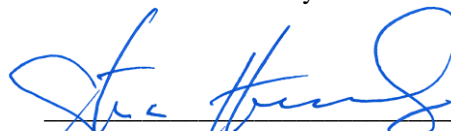
WHEREAS, after she retires, Berlinda plans to create a training academy targeting the water industry, as well as plans to travel, and take in as many hikes as possible.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Steven A. Hernandez, Mayor of the City of Coachella, by the power vested in me, do hereby recognize

Berlinda Blackburn

and urge all citizens of the City of Coachella in recognizing her many successes and congratulate her on her retirement.

IN WITNESS HEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the City of Coachella, California to be affixed this 8th day of December 2021.

Steven A. Hernandez, Mayor
City of Coachella, California