

Proclamation

A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS
PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 7, 2023, AS
“SOUL FOOD and MUSIC FESTIVAL DAY”

- WHEREAS,** the first *Soul Food Festival* was a vision organized by a group of community supporters and volunteers known as “Breaking Away the Cycle of Pain” (BATCOP), and
- WHEREAS,** the group included Janice Allen, Charles Battle, Mary Ford, Clarence Hampshire, Sr., Felecia Hampshire, Roosevelt Page, Donna Reese, John Sanders, Matthew Tinney, Jr., and Delphine Williams, Jr., and
- WHEREAS,** the organizers began to promote the event in an effort to unify all facets of the community at Vera Francis Hall Park for a day filled with fun and festivities, such as a parade, food, music, and games, to bring the community together and instill pride in its citizens; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2008-2009, the festival organizers renamed the organization “Soul Food Festival, Inc.” and the festival has grown from a few participants the first year to over 50 volunteers and has brought unity and respect to the community; and
- WHEREAS,** the *Soul Food Festival* has celebrated several important events in the community, such as the dedication of Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard in 2002 and the dedication of the newly constructed amphitheater at Vera Francis Hall Park in 2005, and the newly constructed Augusta Savage Mentoring Center; and
- WHEREAS,** the *Soul Food Festival* continues the celebration of culture and pride in the Green Cove Springs community; and
- WHEREAS,** 2023 marks the 22nd anniversary of the *Soul Food and Music Festival* which will be held at the Vera Francis Hall Park on Saturday, October 7, 2023, and the City Council of Green Cove Springs wishes to recognize the event by designating the day as “SOUL FOOD and MUSIC FESTIVAL DAY”.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

- Section 1.** The Green Cove Springs City Council hereby declares Saturday, October 7, 2023 as “SOUL FOOD and MUSIC FESTIVAL DAY” in Green Cove Springs.
- Section 2.** A true copy of this Proclamation shall be spread upon the official minutes of the Green Cove Springs City Council.

DONE AND PROCLAIMED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA, IN REGULAR SESSION THIS 3RD DAY OF OCTOBER, 2023.

CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA



Constance W. Butler, Mayor

ATTEST:

Erin West, City Clerk