

# Proclamation

## IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF LEANDRA G. JOHNSON CIRCUIT JUDGE, THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

- WHEREAS,** *The Honorable Leandra G. Johnson has served the citizens of Lake City, Columbia County, and Florida's Third Judicial Circuit with distinction for more than forty years through a career devoted to justice, public service, and community leadership; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Judge Johnson was appointed in 2006 by Governor Jeb Bush as a Circuit Court Judge in Florida's Third Judicial Circuit, making history as the first woman to serve as a Circuit Judge in the circuit, which encompasses Columbia, Dixie, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee, and Taylor counties; and*
- WHEREAS,** *prior to her appointment to the bench, Judge Johnson served for fifteen years as an Assistant State Attorney in the Third Judicial Circuit, practiced law in private practice, and served as Attorney for the Columbia County School Board, demonstrating a lifelong commitment to fairness, integrity, and the rule of law; and*
- WHEREAS,** *in recognition of her leadership, professionalism, and dedication to judicial excellence, Judge Johnson was unanimously elected by her peers to serve as Chief Judge of the Third Judicial Circuit in 2011; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Judge Johnson is a graduate of the University of Florida, earning both her undergraduate degree and Juris Doctor, and has consistently exemplified the highest standards of the legal profession throughout her career; and*
- WHEREAS,** *beyond her judicial service, Judge Johnson has remained deeply engaged in the Lake City community, serving on numerous charitable boards, as past President of the Altrusa Club, and as a longstanding member of the Leadership Council of Take Stock in Children, positively impacting generations of local families and youth; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Judge Johnson's trailblazing career and unwavering commitment to justice serve as an inspiration to women, aspiring legal professionals, and public servants throughout the City of Lake City and beyond.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Noah Walker, Mayor of the City of Lake City, Florida, do hereby wish to recognize The Honorable Leandra G. Johnson for her historic achievements, distinguished judicial service, and enduring contributions to the community, and extend my sincere appreciation and gratitude on behalf of the citizens of Lake City.**

*In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused this seal to be affixed this 17<sup>th</sup> day of February 2026.*



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Noah Walker, Mayor  
City of Lake City