## PROCLAMATION 2021-039

## A PROCLAMATION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF APRIL, 2021 AS "WILLISTON WANTS PEACE - NO MORE VIOLENCE" MONTH.

**WHEREAS,** the City of Williston has a great desire for peace in unincorporated areas on the east side of Williston City Limits and the cancellation of Crab Fest to lessen the opportunities for violence to continue; and

**WHEREAS, w**e recognize Crab Fest started many years ago as a small neighborhood event that promoted the fellowship of families, friends and neighbors and posed no threat to public safety at the time; and

**WHEREAS,** the Crab Fest event in more recent years has proved consistently to be the largest public safety challenge to Levy County and the city of Williston as it brings thousands of people from outside the Williston area; and

**WHEREAS,** in April of 2013, a shooting occurred at the Crab Fest event killing one person and injuring four others while sending thousands of people scrambling for their safety; and

**WHEREAS,** in September of 2020, a mass shooting of six people occurred after a protest turned block party ran late into the night and into the early morning; and

**WHEREAS,** on February 20, 2021, Khajon Spikes, a young man from Williston was senselessly gunned down and murdered leaving behind a grieving family, friends and community; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the continuing and growing trend of violence in the unincorporated areas on the east side of Williston city limits and the need for it to stop here and now; and

WHEREAS, those who represent the community such as religious leaders, leaders of government, law enforcement, teachers and business professionals within our community should set an example by their actions and words to promote the end of violence within our city, county, state and country.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** by the Board of County Commissioners, Levy County, Florida, that we support the efforts of everyone working together to end violence in our streets and we call upon all citizens of Levy County to do your part to act responsibly, respectfully and be a part of the solution to end violence in our communities.

**DULY PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 6<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021.

## BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA

John Meeks, Chairman

ATTEST: Clerk of the Circuit Court and Ex-Officio Clerk to the Board

Danny J. Shipp, Clerk of Court

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

Anne Bast Brown, County Attorney

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