



Whereas, the City of Pahokee, Florida, has always supported its military veteran population; and

Whereas, the Purple Heart is the oldest military decoration in present use and was initially created as the Badge of Military Merit by General George Washington in 1782; and

Whereas, the Purple Heart was the first American service award or decoration made available to the common soldier and is specifically awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces who have been wounded or paid the ultimate sacrifice in combat with a declared enemy of the United States of America; and

Whereas, the mission of the military Order of the Purple Heart is to foster an environment of goodwill among the combat-wounded veteran members and their families, promote patriotism, support legislative initiatives, and most importantly, make sure we never forget; and

Whereas, the City of Pahokee appreciates the sacrifices our Purple Heart recipients made in defending our freedom and believe it is important that we acknowledge them for their courage and show them the honor and support they have earned.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Keith W. Babb, Jr., Mayor of the City of Pahokee, Florida, on behalf of the City Commission, hereby encourage the residents of the City of Pahokee to show their appreciation for the sacrifices the Purple Heart recipients made in defending our freedom, to acknowledge their courage, and to show them the honor and support they have earned.

In official recognition whereof, I hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Pahokee to be affixed this 7th day of November 2022.

Keith W. Babb, Jr.

Mayor Keith W. Babb, Jr.

Plan Gangaleg

Commissioner Juan Gonzalez

Sara Perey

Commissioner Sara Perez