



# PROCLAMATION

ONE CITY. ONE JACKSONVILLE.

**WHEREAS:** The state of Florida has the nation's third-largest population of women veterans, the majority of whom reside in Northeast Florida and Duval County, and the number of women serving in the military and women veterans continues to grow with over 2 million of the approximately 21.3 million living veterans nationwide being women; and

**WHEREAS:** Women veterans have served our country with dedication, honor, and bravery, and like their male counterparts they face many challenges. According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, they may face challenges such as post-traumatic stress disorder, motherhood, sexual trauma, high divorce rates, mental health issues, high suicide rates, service-connected disabilities, and poverty that can lead to homelessness. Women veterans also can face unique challenges involving gender discrimination or childcare needs; and

**WHEREAS:** In an effort to support the specific needs of our country's women veterans, there are several agencies, including The Center for Women Veterans established by Congress in 1994, and the Northeast Florida Women Veterans Association, Inc., whose mission in Northeast Florida is to guarantee that women veterans have the proper tools to make a successful and healthy transition back to civilian life after active duty; and

**WHEREAS:** The unique needs of women who have served are emphasized and recognized throughout the country, with communities across the nation coming together to ensure that women veterans are no longer the "invisible veterans" and are afforded the assistance and services they and their families deserve; and

**WHEREAS:** In Jacksonville, we recognize that our veterans disregard personal well-being and act with incredible honor to preserve for us a gift of unapproachable magnitude. Our freedom honors the tremendous sacrifices our women in uniform have made in order to defend our country.

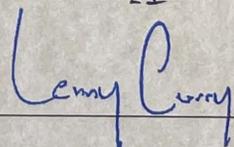
**NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY,** by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim June 5<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> 2021 as

## WOMEN VETERANS RECOGNITION WEEK

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to recognize the courage, honor, and dignity with which women have served and continue to serve in defense of our nation and our community.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of June  
in the year Two Thousand 21

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lenny Curry".

MAYOR

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA