

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Samuel P. Bell III, lifetime friend to and advocate for the City of Ormond Beach, moved to Florida while in junior high school. He earned an undergraduate degree from Duke University and law degree for Dartmouth College; and

WHEREAS, Sam served many important roles during his 83 years – attorney, lawmaker, lobbyist and most importantly, husband, father and dear friend; and

WHEREAS, Sam’s professional roles include, but are not limited to, practicing law at Cobb Cole and Pennington P.A.; serving on the boards for the Florida Public Health Foundation and Children’s Home Society, and 40 years on the board for Brown & Brown Insurance; serving Volusia in the Florida House of Representatives from 1974 to 1988 and lobbyist thereafter; and being the founder of the state’s first College of public Health at the University of South Florida; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure in Tallahassee as a legislative powerhouse, Sam is most revered for his role in the passing of important legislation for children education, health and safety. Sam was instrumental in Florida’s first law requiring children be in a car seat or restrained while in a vehicle; the state’s regional perinatal program, infant metabolic screening and school health services programs; and creation of Florida Healthy Kids, which later became a nationally recognized model program; and

WHEREAS, Sam was extremely passionate about his beliefs and convictions, both professionally and personally. He was devoted to his family and friends, and could always be counted on no matter the circumstance. He was witty and the first to make a joke to keep things lighthearted when needed. He was always a gentleman and demonstrated an impeccable work ethic, serving as a role model to others, peers and youth alike; and

WHEREAS, Sam is survived by his wife of 34 years Betty Castor, sons Sam Bell IV, Doug Bell and David Bell, step-daughters Kathy Castor and Karen Castor, step-son Frank Castor and ten amazing grandchildren.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Partington, Mayor of the City of Ormond Beach, Florida, do hereby proclaim March 31, 2023, as a day to remember and celebrate

Sam Bell

in the City of Ormond Beach and encourage all residents to join with me on this day as we honor his legacy and celebrate his devotion to family, friends, community and children.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Ormond Beach, Florida, to be affixed this 31st day of March in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Three.



BILL PARTINGTON
Mayor