

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, John Scotti is a native Floridian and former resident of Ormond Beach. John loves sports and played football, with time as a linebacker, nose tackle, and fullback, while attending Seabreeze High School. After graduating, John enrolled at Arkansas State University studying political science, and, four years later, is on the Dean's Honor Roll and will graduate in August. John also interned last summer with Ormond Beach City Commissioner Dwight Selby as part of his studies; and

WHEREAS, John was introduced to rugby by a friend during his junior year of high school and started playing as a hobby. Once at Arkansas State, John joined the club rugby team and eventually decided that he wanted to play rugby professionally. John spent three of his four years on the team as part of the starting lineup, in the positions of center and wing. His team consisted of young men from around the world, and John appreciates the perspectives and techniques they brought to the game. He credits the increase in his skill level to the knowledge gathered from playing with those individuals; and

WHEREAS, in June, Rugby ATL, an Atlanta-based franchise of Major League Rugby, selected John with the 20th overall pick in the league's first professional draft. More than 400 collegiate players applied for selection, but only 24 were chosen across the country. John is excited to be part of this new league and for his move to Atlanta to start the next chapter of his life. He is hoping this path will eventually lead to competition in the Olympics in 2024; and

WHEREAS, John sacrificed, worked hard and dedicated himself to his craft in order to improve himself and his chances of being able to play professionally. John's perseverance and accomplishments are an inspiration to us all.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Partington, Mayor of the City of Ormond Beach, Florida, do hereby proclaim August 4, 2020, as a day to recognize

JOHN SCOTTI

in the City of Ormond Beach and urge all residents to join with me on this day as we recognize John's achievements and celebrate his wonderful opportunity.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Ormond Beach, Florida, to be affixed this 4th day of August in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty.



BILL PARTINGTON

Mayor