

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, James S. Purdy began his service as the elected Public Defender of the Seventh Judicial Circuit of Florida in January 2005. Jim has served as both an Assistant Attorney General and an Assistant State Attorney in the Seventh and Twelfth Judicial Circuits of Florida, and spent seven years in private practice; and

WHEREAS, Jim lived on Orchard Lane for a short time growing up and moved back to Ormond Beach with his family after spending time in Pensacola. He graduated from Seabreeze High School, and went to work as a bus boy at Julian's Dining Room and Lounge on Atlantic Avenue; and

WHEREAS, Jim met his wife, Marilyn, who was a judge's secretary, in an elevator while working for the Twelfth Judicial Circuit. They were married in 1981 and have a son, Matthew. For Jim's 60th birthday, he and Matthew spent 10 days in northern Spain, walking the Camino de Santiago together. The experience with his son was one of the most memorable moments of Jim's life; and

WHEREAS, Jim graduated *cum laude* with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from the University of Florida in 1975, and received his Juris Doctor degree from Nova University Center for the Study of Law in 1978; and

WHEREAS, public defenders represent clients who cannot afford their own criminal defense attorneys, and the Seventh Judicial Circuit includes Volusia, Flagler, St. Johns and Putnam Counties. Jim oversaw 57 trial attorneys in the felony, misdemeanor and juvenile divisions, who handled 33,000 cases a year. There were also 22 appellate attorneys under Jim's direction. His policy on approaching each case was to represent the individual as if that person were their own child. Jim was known as a loyal boss and highly dedicated to getting the job done; and

WHEREAS, Jim has been involved in the community by serving as Chairman of the Volusia County Republican Party and as District Chairman of the Boy Scouts of America for the Kings Road and Three Rivers districts. He has served on the Florida Medical Examiners Commission since his appointment in 2008, and volunteers for the National Park Service at the historic Castillo de San Marcos in St. Augustine; and

WHEREAS, Jim retired on December 31, 2020 to enjoy family, traveling and dedicating more time to his passion for history.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Partington, Mayor of the City of Ormond Beach, Florida, do hereby proclaim May 4, 2021, as a day to recognize

JAMES S. PURDY

in the City of Ormond Beach and encourage all residents to join me in wishing Jim the best in his well-deserved retirement, and in thanking him for his many years of service to the City.

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 May in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-One.



BILL PARTINGTON
Mayor