

**PROCLAMATION
OF THE SEMINOLE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PROCLAIMING MAY 26, 2025
MEMORIAL DAY IN
SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

WHEREAS, Memorial Day is a time for solemn remembrance and heartfelt tribute to the courageous Americans who gave their lives in service to our nation under the banner of liberty; and

WHEREAS, originally known as Decoration Day, this observance began in the aftermath of the Civil War and has grown to honor all U.S. military personnel who have perished in service, including those lost in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, in 1915, inspired by the sight of poppies blooming on battle-scarred fields, a brigade surgeon penned the poem *In Flanders Fields*, giving voice to the fallen and establishing the red poppy as an enduring symbol of remembrance; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress, through a joint resolution on May 11, 1950, designated Memorial Day as a day of prayer for permanent peace, and called upon the President to issue a proclamation encouraging nationwide observance; and

WHEREAS, Monday, May 26th will mark the 157th anniversary of Memorial Day; and

WHEREAS, more than 1.2 million American service members have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our country, including over 8,000 brave individuals from the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, today, over 1.3 million Americans serve on active duty—including approximately 132,000 Floridians—while nearly one million serve in the Reserves and National Guard, continuing a proud tradition of military service and sacrifice; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the residents of Seminole County unite in gratitude to honor the memory of our fallen heroes and the values for which they stood;

WHEREAS, on Memorial Day, and every day, the citizens of Seminole County must remember the servicemen and women who sacrificed their lives to ensure our own.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Seminole County Board of County Commissioners does hereby proclaim May 26, 2025, as

Memorial Day

AND BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that at 3:00 PM on Memorial Day, the Board urges all residents of Seminole County to voluntarily pause for a moment of silence, reflection, and gratitude in honor of our nation's fallen service members.

ADOPTED this 20th day of May 2025



Jay Zembower, Chairman
Seminole County Board of County Commissioners