

**PROCLAMATION  
OF THE SEMINOLE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AFFIRMING  
MAY 25, 2026 AS  
MEMORIAL DAY IN  
SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**WHEREAS**, on Memorial Day, we pay solemn tribute to those brave Americans who served under the stars and stripes and laid down their lives to defend our freedom; and

**WHEREAS**, for more than a century, this holiday was known as Decoration Day and originally honored those lost while fighting in the Civil War; and

**WHEREAS**, following America's entry into World War I, Memorial Day evolved to commemorate American military personnel who died in all wars, including World War II, the Vietnam War, the Korean War, and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1915, after spotting a cluster of poppies, a brigade surgeon was inspired to write the poem *In Flanders Field*, giving a voice to service members who had died in battle and lay buried beneath poppy-covered grounds; the poem initiated a movement to make the poppy a symbol of tribute to all who have died in war and remains an emblem of remembrance to this day; and

**WHEREAS**, Congress, in a joint resolution approved May 11, 1950, provided that Memorial Day shall be set aside as a day of prayer for permanent peace and requested President Truman to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe each Memorial Day in that manner; and

**WHEREAS**, Monday, May 25th will mark the 158th anniversary of Memorial Day; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 1.2 million American service members have died in conflicts, and more than 8,000 of these were from Florida; and over 100 were residents of Seminole County with 2 Medal of Honor recipients; and

**WHEREAS**, today, over 1.3 million Americans serve in active military duty, 66,000 of whom are from Florida, while nearly 750,000 Americans serve in the Reserves and National Guard; and

**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 recognize May 25, 2026, as

**Memorial Day**

**AND BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED** that the Board of County Commissioners requests that at 3:00 PM on Memorial Day, Seminole County residents voluntarily observe in their own way a moment of remembrance and respect, pausing from whatever they are doing to honor our military heroes and their valor.

ADOPTED this 12th day of May 2026



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Andria Herr, Chairman  
Seminole County Board of County Commissioners