

**PROCLAMATION
OF THE SEMINOLE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RECOGNIZING
UNITED STATES NAVY SEAMAN WILLIAM F. HYDE FOR HIS OUTSTANDING
SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES AND SEMINOLE COUNTY**

WHEREAS, the brave men and women of our Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard, and Space Force demonstrate a resolute spirit and unmatched selflessness, reminding us there are few things more American than giving of ourselves to make a difference in the lives of others; and

WHEREAS, throughout our country's history, generations of service members have answered the call to leave their families, their jobs, and put their futures and even their lives on the line to valiantly defend our nation; and

WHEREAS, for many service members, the sacrifice has ended in permanent injury or death, yet their spirit remains in the continued preservation of our freedoms and the promise of liberty; and

WHEREAS, there are more than 30,000 living veterans in Seminole County who served our Nation in times of peace and war. Through their service, they kept America strong; and

WHEREAS, Seaman William F. Hyde enlisted in the United States Navy in January 1969, and proudly served onboard the USS FORRESTAL (CV 59) until he Honorably separated in December 1972; and

WHEREAS, Seaman William F. Hyde returned to his home in Florida in 1973 where he worked for IBM and General Electric for 13 years. Later in 1991, he was elected as Mayor of Dania Beach, FL. Following his second term as Mayor, he joined the Merchant Marines in 2002. He was responsible for moving fuel and ammunition in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. His efforts earned him the Merchant Marine Expeditionary Award, the only ribbon that can be awarded by the Merchant Marines. While performing these supportive assignments for the military, he and his family moved to Oviedo, and he continued to work for an additional five years. Upon separating from the Merchant Marines, he worked as a Network Administrator for DISTI, a simulation provider for five years throughout Central Florida until fully retiring in 2012; and

WHEREAS, Seaman William F. Hyde has been an invaluable member of the Oviedo American Legion Post 243 and the surrounding community for the past 14 years. He is a strong activist for making change through the political process advocating for local Zoning issues and Federal concerns for Merchant Marines recognition during combat operations; and

WHEREAS, Seaman William F. Hyde has brought great credit and distinction upon himself, the United States of America, the United States Navy, and Seminole County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that we, the Board of County Commissioners of Seminole County, Florida, express our gratitude, admiration, and respect for Seaman William F. Hyde, for his outstanding service to the United States Navy and residents of Seminole County.

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that this Proclamation is presented to Seaman William F. Hyde, along with our sincere congratulations and recognition as Seminole County's

“Veteran of the Month”

ADOPTED this 23rd day of May 2023.



Amy Lockhart, Chairman
Seminole County, Board of County Commissioners