

**PROCLAMATION
OF THE SEMINOLE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RECOGNIZING
UNITED STATES ARMY SPECIALIST SYLVESTER FRANKLIN 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, Specialist Sylvester Franklin enlisted in the United States Army in April 1964 and served honorably in Fort Lewis, WA, and Fort Bragg, NC; and

WHEREAS, Specialist Sylvester Franklin served in the 82nd Airborne Division, Alpha Company, 2nd Battalion, 505th Infantry, earning his Parachutist Badge, and having over 20 confirmed Airborne jumps. He also deployed to the Dominican Republic where he earned his Combat Infantryman's Badge and then separated from the Army and returned to Sanford, FL in 1966; and

WHEREAS, Specialist Sylvester Franklin worked at Cape Canaveral for TWA and Boeing as a Supply Specialist. In 1970 he briefly worked at Disney World before it officially opened. He then transitioned to Florida Power and Light (FPL) at the Sanford power plant where he worked as an electrician for the next 18 years. He retired from FPL and went to work for Volusia County School Board as a mechanic. He officially retired from the County in 2006. Upon retirement he has continued to serve his community by way of his membership in the Bo-Key Riders Motorcycle Club in Sanford. As the President of the club, he is extremely active in the community by feeding and clothing the homeless and providing scholarships to local graduating seniors going to college; and

WHEREAS, Specialist Sylvester Franklin has brought great credit and distinction upon himself, the United States of America, the United States Army, 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 Specialist Sylvester Franklin, for his outstanding service to the United States Army and residents of Seminole County.

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that this Proclamation is presented to Specialist Sylvester Franklin, along with our sincere congratulations and recognition as Seminole County's

“Veteran of the Month”

ADOPTED this 22nd day of August 2023.



Amy Lockhart, Chairman
Seminole County Board of County Commissioners