RESOLUTION NO. 2020-30

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROCLAIMING APRIL 2020 AS SEXUAL ASSSAULT AWARENESS MONTH.

WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) is a campaign to raise public awareness about sexual violence and to educate the community on how to prevent it; and

WHEREAS, sexual harassment, rape and abuse are widespread and impact every person in the community; and

WHEREAS, current estimates suggest as few as 1 and 5 sexual assaults will be reported to law enforcement and less than three percent will result in the conviction and incarceration of the perpetrator; and

WHEREAS, research documents that victims are far more likely to disclose their sexual assault to a friend or family member, and when these loved ones respond with doubt, shame, or blame, victims suffer additional negative effects on their physical and psychological well-being; and

WHEREAS, SAAM is celebrating its 19th anniversary and the theme for this year's campaign is "Every Response Matters" to encourage support of victims from friends, family and the community; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners shares a critical concern for victims of sexual violence and a desire to support their needs for justice and healing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED this 18th day of March, 2020, by

the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County, Florida, that:

- 1. The Board hereby supports the "Every Response Matters" Campaign and urges friends, family and community members to be a supportive to victims to encourage healing, promote access to community resources and engagement in the criminal justice system.
- 2. April 2020 is hereby declared Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Nassau County, Florida.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA

DANIEL B. LEEPBR

Its: Chairman

Attest as to Chairman's Signature:

JOHN A. CRAWFORD

Its: Ex-Officio Clerk

Approved as to form by the Nassau County Attorney:

MICHAEL S. MULLIN