RESOLUTION NO. 2022-026

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA, DECLARING APRIL 2022 AS SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARNESS MONTH.

WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month uplifts year-round efforts that call attention to the prevalence of sexual violence and its widespread impacts, while promoting responses that lead to positive cultural change; and

WHEREAS, 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men have experienced sexual violence involving

physical contact during their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment harm our community, and statistics show that every 68 seconds an American is sexually assaulted; and

WHEREAS, the goal of this month is to raise public awareness about sexual violence; provide education on individual and societal impacts; and encourage community level responses to sexual violence; and

WHEREAS, the theme of this year's Sexual Assault Awareness Month campaign in Nassau County is "Healing: Past, Present, and Future". This theme focuses on transgenerational trauma, recognizing that traumatic experiences, including those stemming from sexual violence, can have effects that get passed down through generations, and that sexual violence and its effects through generations is a public health issue; and

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WHEREAS, this theme invites community members to stop the cycle by working to end rape culture through awareness, community engagement, and culturally competent supportive services. We must champion survivor-supportive responses and services, center the voices of survivors, and take action to ensure our community is a culturally affirming environment for survivors of all backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, prevention is the ultimate goal and everyone's responsibility: All of us can create and promote safe environments. We can intervene to stop concerning behavior; promote and model healthy attitudes and relationships; and believe survivors and assist them in finding resources. Each of us must be part of victim-centered change that improves systemic responses to ALL survivors and for their loved ones in generations to come

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED this 28th day of March, 2022, by the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County, Florida, that:

- April 2022 is hereby proclaimed as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Nassau County, Florida.
- 2. The Board joins advocates and community members in raising awareness about sexual violence, centering the needs of those who have been harmed, and advancing equitable support for every survivor. Each day of the year is an opportunity to create change for the future.

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BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA

AARON C. BELL

Its: Chairman

Attest as to Chairman's signature:

JOHN A. CRAWFORD

Its: Ex-Officio Clerk

Approved as to form by the Nassau County Attorney:

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