

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-161

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA, IN CELEBRATION OF 45 YEARS
OF THE SILVER SQUARE LODGE 703, F&AM, PHA.**

WHEREAS, Freemasonry began in 1717 with the founding of the United Grand Lodge of England, in London; and

WHEREAS, Freemasonry became popular with leading colonials after the first American Lodge was founded in Boston, Massachusetts in 1733; and

WHEREAS, Freemasonry unites men of good character who, though of different religious, ethnic and social backgrounds, share a belief in the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Mankind; and

WHEREAS, Freemasonry offers an opportunity for good men to further improve their character and actions through its system of degrees, symbols, and fellowship opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the United Grand Lodge of England has reported that worldwide membership totals more than 6 million Freemasons, 1.1 million of whom are in the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, in the early 1970's, a piece of property was purchased from Mr. Ben Isaac, for the purpose of building a masonic lodge; and

WHEREAS, individuals from the community worked together to raise money for construction of the lodge by hosting fish dinners, BBQ dinners, and basketball tournaments; and

WHEREAS, other parties involved in this endeavor included Southeastern Bank of Yulee, Florida and Mr. Tex McGowen, the contractor who constructed the new facility; and

WHEREAS, on September 17, 1977, Silver Square Lodge #703 F&AM, PHA, was officially established in Nassau County, Florida, and led by Worshipful Master, Freddie L. Johnson; and

WHEREAS, other founding members included Senior Warden, Freddie L. Mason; Junior Warden, Otis C. Mobley; Master Robert Smith; Master Hermon White; Treasurer, Erving Gilyard; Secretary, Stanley Lofton; Senior Deacon, George F. Herring; Junior Deacon, Joe Evans; Chaplain, Benjamin Isaac; Tyler, Ralph Alderman; Tyler, Eugene Rauls; Lawrence Williams; Barry Mack; Amos Melton; Joe Evans; Clarence Simmons; Ralph Alderman; and Honorary Members Able White and William Davis; and

WHEREAS, Silver Square Lodge #703 F&AM, PHA, operates under the protection of the Most Worshipful Union Grand Lodge Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity; Free and Accepted Masons, State of Florida and Belize, Central America Jurisdiction, Prince Hall Affiliated, led by the Honorable Jeffery G. Jones, 19th Most Worshipful Grandmaster; and

WHEREAS, today's members of Silver Square Lodge #703, F&AM, PHA, include Worship Master, Wayne Peterson; Master Robert Smith; Master Jackie Green; Master Hermon White; Senior Warden, Donald Nobles; Junior Warden, Terry Jacobs; Secretary Reggie McIntyre; Senior Deacon, Brian Rauls; Junior Deacon, Amos Melton; Tyler, Freddie Mason; Stanley Lofton; Kenny Williams; Ken Lee; and Elbert Walker; and

WHEREAS, it is the mission of the Silver Square Lodge #703 F&AM, PHA, to "Take God fearing men and strive to make them better for their family, community and country. Men who are willing to go beyond the length of their cable tow for a Worthy Brother"; and

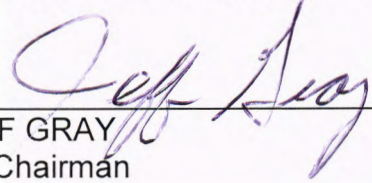
WHEREAS, the Silver Square Lodge #703 F&AM, PHA, is committed to improving the quality of life for its community. In addition to serving as mentors for young men, they often host charity/fundraising events, participate in festivals and parades, promote public education by offering scholarships, and support early childhood literacy efforts in vulnerable communities; and

WHEREAS, on September 17, 2022, the Silver Square Lodge #703 F&AM, PHA, will celebrate 45 years in Nassau County, Florida, signifying 45 years of service to this community.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this 12th day of September, 2022, by the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County, Florida, that the Board publicly commends Silver Square Lodge #703, F&AM, PHA, for all they have done for the community and congratulates them on their 45th anniversary.

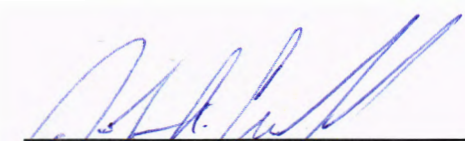
DULY ADOPTED THIS 12th day of September 2022.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA



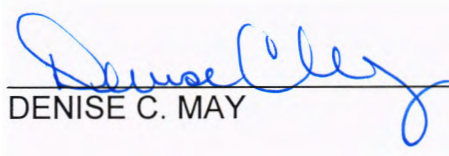
JEFF GRAY
Its: Chairman

ATTEST AS TO CHAIRMAN'S
SIGNATURE



JOHN A. CRAWFORD
Its: Ex-Officio Clerk

Approved as to form by the
Nassau County Attorney



DENISE C. MAY