## **RESOLUTION NO. 2020-12**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA, COMMENDING K9s UNITED FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT.

WHEREAS, in 2015, K9 Officer Baron from St. Johns County, Florida, died tragically at the hands of an escaped inmate; and

WHEREAS, civilian Debbie Johnson, attended Baron's service and felt compelled to assist law enforcement agencies and submersed herself fully by enrolling in the Civilian Law Enforcement Academy; and

WHEREAS, after becoming involved, Debbie Johnson realized that budgetary needs for law enforcement K9s were not being met so she decided to begin a program in support of K9 Officers to ensure they are protected and memorialized if lost in the line of duty; and

WHEREAS, Debbie Johnson founded K9s United to support law enforcement agencies by providing K9 equipment to be used for their training and care; and

WHEREAS, K9s United began in Jacksonville, Florida in 2015 and has expanded to 30 states; and

WHEREAS, K9s United has established relationships with vendors to obtain discounts on life-saving equipment to ensure that each dollar donated is stretched as far as possible; and

WHEREAS, Debbie Johnson's daughter Emma began "Emma's Heat Alarm

System" campaign to raise funds for purchase of heat alarms to be used in K9 vehicles

to notify the handler should dangerous conditions be detected in the vehicle; and

WHEREAS, K9s United has donated a heat alarm to the Nassau County Sheriff's

Office; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners extends their sincere appreciation to K9s United for their support of all law enforcement agencies, especially the Nassau County Sheriff's Office.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County, Florida, this 10th day of February, 2020 that:

- 1. The Board commends Debbie Johnson for identifying a need to support K9 Officers and establishing K9s United.
- 2. The Board extends their appreciation to K9s United for their generous donation of a heat alarm to the Nassau County Sheriff's Office.
- 3. The Board extends their best wishes to K9s United in their mission to provide services and equipment needed to ensure proper K9 care, and to recognize K9s lost in the line of duty.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA

DANIEL B. LEEPER

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