

PROCLAMATION

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA

WHEREAS, motor vehicle accidents remain the leading cause of injury and death among teen drivers; and

WHEREAS, the month of April has been designated to promote awareness of distracted driving, emphasizing responsible decision-making behind the wheel to reduce the high rate of crashes among teenagers; and

WHEREAS, the Drive 4 Life program at North Marion High School empowers students to promote safe driving behaviors through peer leadership and community engagement; and

WHEREAS, the Marion County Children’s Alliance and Duke Energy demonstrate their shared commitment to public safety by supporting youth-focused prevention initiatives that keep children safe, connected, and thriving; and

WHEREAS, collaboration among schools, families, community organizations, businesses, and local government enhances efforts to protect young drivers and save lives; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Marion County, Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in us do hereby proclaim that **April 2026** be known as

“DRIVE 4 LIFE MONTH”

and encourages all members of our community to talk to their teens about driving rules, including restrictions on passengers and phone use, as part of this national safety effort.

DULY PROCLAIMED this 7th day of **April, 2026**.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA

CARL ZALAK, III, CHAIRMAN

MATT MCCLAIN, VICE CHAIR

KATHY BRYANT, COMMISSIONER

MICHELLE STONE, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

GREGORY C. HARRELL, CLERK

CRAIG CURRY, COMMISSIONER