

PROCLAMATION

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA

WHEREAS, National Treatment Court Month is observed in May, and in the State of Florida, Treatment Courts are known as Problem-Solving Courts; and problem-solving courts play a crucial role in improving substance use disorder, mental disorders, and treatment outcomes, while also fostering community partnerships to enhance public safety, quality of life and public health; and

WHEREAS, Problem-Solving Courts address the root causes of justice-system involvement through a multidisciplinary team approach, intensive judicial supervision, and evidence-based treatment, helping participants reduce recidivism, achieve stability, and rebuild their lives; and

WHEREAS, Problem-solving courts strengthen confidence in the justice system, save taxpayer dollars, and are widely recognized as one of the most effective interventions for individuals with substance use and mental health disorders; and their success is made possible through the dedicated work of judges, court coordinators, attorneys, treatment professionals, law enforcement and corrections personnel, researchers, educators, and community leaders; and

WHEREAS, the first drug court was established in Miami in 1989, serving as the model for 183 Problem-Solving Courts in Florida and more than 4,000 worldwide; and Marion County's first drug court, established in 1994, has served more than 5,000 participants and expanded to four tracks, including Juvenile Treatment Court; and the county also operates Mental Health Court, Veterans Treatment Court, Family Treatment Court, DUI Court, and Early Childhood Court, collectively assisting more than 500 adults, juveniles, and veterans in 2025; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Marion County, Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in us, hereby proclaim the month of **May 2026** as

“PROBLEM SOLVING COURT MONTH”

and encourages all citizens to recognize the judges, staff, stakeholders, graduates, and participants whose efforts contribute to the success of these programs and have reduced crime, saved lives, and positively impacted our community.

DULY PROCLAIMED this **5th** day of **May, 2026**.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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ATTEST:

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