

PROCLAMATION

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA

WHEREAS, Marion County has been a recognized leader in Florida for promoting mediation and other forms of dispute resolution, as cost-effective and compassionate alternatives to litigation, helping thousands of Marion County residents & business owners resolve their disputes annually through our court-connected programs; and

WHEREAS, the Marion County Court System, through the Fifth Judicial Circuit's alternative dispute resolution programs, successfully diverts cases from costly and time-consuming litigation; and

WHEREAS, mediation is a voluntary, confidential, and collaborative process that empowers families, neighbors, businesses, and community members to craft their own solutions to conflicts while preserving relationships and dignity; and

WHEREAS, county mediation strengthens the fabric of our neighborhoods by addressing disputes over property lines, noise complaints, homeowner association matters, and other quality-of-life issues before they escalate into costly legal battles;

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Marion County, Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in us do hereby proclaim **October 12 – 18, 2025**, as

“ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION WEEK”

in Marion County, Florida, and encourages all residents to learn about available mediation and other dispute resolution services, consider mediation before pursuing litigation, and support community mediation programs while recognizing the dedicated volunteer mediators who serve our community.

DULY PROCLAIMED this **21st** day of **October, 2025**.

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

KATHY BRYANT, CHAIR

CARL ZALAK, III, VICE CHAIR

MICHELLE STONE, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

CRAIG CURRY, COMMISSIONER

GREGORY C. HARRELL, CLERK

MATT MCCLAIN, COMMISSIONER