

# PROCLAMATION

## BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA

**WHEREAS**, the year 2024 marks the 180<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of Marion County, Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Government acquired Florida in 1821, and in 1825 created an agency to oversee the Seminole population in what would become Marion County, Florida, establishing a military outpost for protection; and

**WHEREAS**, pioneers migrated to present-day Marion County during the 1840s due to the free land offered under the Armed Occupation Act; and

**WHEREAS**, Gabriel Priest, the first state senator from Marion, played a pivotal role in advocating for the creation of Marion County through legislative action; and

**WHEREAS**, the territorial legislative council authorized the formation of Marion County and Richard Keith Call, the territorial governor, signed the law on March 25, 1844; and

**WHEREAS**, Marion County has grown substantially in its history and now boasts significant economic development and the title of Horse Capital of the World;

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Board of County Commissioners of Marion County, Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in us do hereby proclaim **Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024** as

### “MARION COUNTY DAY”

**DULY PROCLAIMED** this 19<sup>th</sup> day of **March, 2024**.

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

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MICHELLE STONE, CHAIR

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KATHY BRYANT, VICE CHAIR

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CARL ZALAK, III, COMMISSIONER

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CRAIG CURRY, COMMISSIONER

**ATTEST:**

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GREGORY C. HARRELL, CLERK

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MATT MCCLAIN, COMMISSIONER