

THE VILLAGE OF ESTERO PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, The Village of Estero, in Lee County, Florida with its unique weather and water resources, offer special water related recreational activities to its residents, and people from around the world; and

WHEREAS, this area's miles of saltwater tidal coastline, rivers, bays, and canals provide many of the needed outlets for recreation and relaxation; and

WHEREAS, recreational boating is one of Florida's leading outdoor activities with more than 44,000 registered boats in Lee County alone, distinguishing Florida as the "Boating Capital of the World"; and

WHEREAS, every year lives are lost in boating accidents in spite of the educational efforts of the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, the U.S. Power Squadrons, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission, and local agencies; and

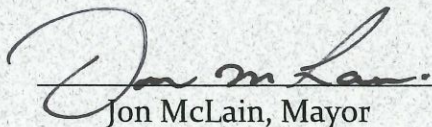
WHEREAS, federal state and local agencies and private companies and groups have combined their efforts to reduce boating accidents by developing and executing safety training programs, such as, "Boat Smart - Boat Safe", and "You're in Command"; and

WHEREAS, the sponsors of these programs have focused their efforts toward youth and the general public of Estero, Florida, urging them to enhance boating pleasure and avoid possible loss of life, while reducing the loss of property, and marine accidents; and

WHEREAS, on average, 600 people die each year in boating-related accidents in the U.S.; Where cause of death was known, 81% of fatal boating accident victims drowned. Of those drowning victims with reported life jacket usage, 83% were not wearing a life jacket; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jon McLain, Mayor of the Village of Estero, Lee County, Florida, do hereby designate May 20-26, 2023, as **Village of Estero Safe Boating Week**, and urge all citizens to join in learning and practicing safe boating by: wearing a life jacket, taking boating education courses, getting vessel safety check, operating their vessels responsibly, safely and soberly, and obeying Coast Guard Regulations established after September 11th related to Homeland Security.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Village of Estero to be affixed, this 17th day of May 2023.



Jon McLain, Mayor

