THE VILLAGE OF ESTERO PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, from our earliest days as a nation, our United States armed forces have acted with great courage and valor to defend, protect, and preserve the liberty we cherish. Indeed, our very heritage of freedom and democracy is owed to the devotion to country and the vigilance of generations of servicemen and women; and;

WHEREAS, it is fitting at this time to honor the legacy of strength, courage, and sacrifice of all those who have served and are now serving our country. Whether active duty, National Guard, or Reserve, our military has stood ready in times of peace and in times of conflict to answer our nation's call to duty; and

WHEREAS, this selfless service to country often demands special sacrifice and hardship not only from those who serve, but from their families, as well. Throughout our nation's history, many families have borne the greatest burden of all through the loss of a loved one in defense of freedom. It is incumbent upon us, as citizens of this great land to remember those sacrifices and to honor our servicemen and women and our veterans, especially those who died in defense of our freedom; and

WHEREAS, the month of May has been designated by Congress as a particularly appropriate time to recognize and honor our military families as we celebrate Loyalty Day, Victory in Europe (VE) Day, Military Spouse Day, Armed Forces Day, and Memorial Day all during the month of May; now, therefore, be it; and

WHEREAS, the residents and the Village of Estero Council express our full support and gratitude to our servicemen and women, as well as our veterans; and

NOW, **THEREFORE**, I, Mayor Jon McLain of the Village of Estero, Lee County, Florida, do hereby declare May 2024 as Military Appreciation Month in the Village of Estero.

IN WITNESS THEREFORE, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Village of Estero to be affixed, this day of 15th day of May 2024.

Jon McLain, Mayor