

# PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS:** The Purple Heart, the oldest military decoration still awarded in the United States, honors members of our armed forces who are wounded in combat, or is posthumously given to the next of kin of those killed as a result of being wounded in action; and

**WHEREAS:** The Purple Heart can trace its roots back to August 7, 1782, when General George Washington established the Badge of Military Merit – a small, heart-shaped piece of purple cloth or silk. It was given to members of the Continental Army who showed extraordinary valor during the American Revolution, and although it fell into obscurity after the war, it was never formally discontinued; and

**WHEREAS:** In 1932, a presidential order from Herbert Hoover reestablished the Badge of Military Merit as the Purple Heart. Nearly 2 million Purple Hearts have been awarded since the award's reestablishment; and

**WHEREAS:** The Military Order of the Purple Heart, a service organization also formed in 1932, is the only organization composed solely of combat veterans; and

**WHEREAS:** The Purple Heart remains a symbol of the sacrifices of the men and women who have earned it, and of the sacrifices required to protect the many freedoms we enjoy as Americans. As a community with many military members and veterans, Jacksonville will continue to stand in support of our service members.

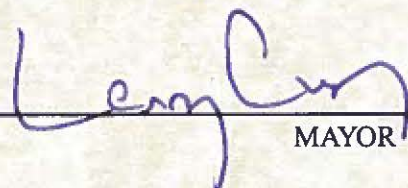
**NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY,** by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim August 7, 2018 as

## PURPLE HEART DAY

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to join me in honoring those members of the armed forces who have received the Purple Heart and recognizing the families of the fallen.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of August  
in the year Two Thousand 18

  
MAYOR

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA