



PROCLAMATION

ONE CITY. ONE JACKSONVILLE.

WHEREAS: Lupus is a chronic autoimmune disease in which the immune system inexplicably and randomly attacks the body's own tissues and vital organs, including the kidneys, brain, heart, lungs, blood, skin, and joints; and

WHEREAS: Over 100,000 Floridians live with lupus and the disease directly affects 1.5 million people in the United States, and is still one of America's least recognized major illnesses; and

WHEREAS: Lupus is one of the most difficult diseases to diagnose because its intermittent symptoms may mimic those of other diseases, and no single test can definitively identify the illness. Yet, early diagnosis and treatment can lessen the progression and severity of the disease and are vital to preserving patient health; and

WHEREAS: Since 2011, Jacksonville has been a leader in promoting lupus awareness in the Southeast. This effort has contributed to increased federal funding directed towards lupus research for local hospitals to conduct clinical trials for those living with this disease; and

WHEREAS: First Coast Lupus Fight works to raise awareness of the symptoms of lupus and to promote education, research, social support, and quality medical care for our citizens who are affected by this disease.

WHEREAS: Awareness of lupus symptoms and health effects can contribute to early diagnoses and the prevention of years of suffering. Increasing public awareness and focusing public attention on lupus and its devastating impact on patients' lives will provide hope for a better future for those affected.

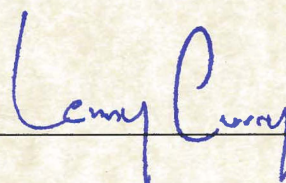
NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY, by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim May 2020 as

LUPUS AWARENESS MONTH

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to increase awareness and understanding of lupus and support efforts to improve quality of life for those affected.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 25th day of June
in the year Two Thousand 20



MAYOR

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA