



# PROCLAMATION

ONE CITY. ONE JACKSONVILLE.

**WHEREAS:** The Philippine Archipelago was colonized by the Spanish at the end of the 16th century and a rebellion took root in 1892 with the formation of a secret revolutionary society. On June 12, 1898, Filipino rebels, led by Emilio Aguinaldo, declared independence during the Spanish-American War; and

**WHEREAS:** Another figure during this time, Dr. Jose Rizal, wrote critically of the Spanish elite and was executed on December 30, 1896, after being convicted of rebellion, sedition, and conspiracy. He is now upheld as a national hero among Filipinos, honored both on his birthday, June 19, and the date of his death; and

**WHEREAS:** Aguinaldo's assistance to the United States during the war helped lead to his country's liberation and build a relationship of support between the United States and the Philippines that has continued ever since, including during the Pacific battles of World War II; and

**WHEREAS:** Jacksonville is home to Florida's largest population of Filipino Americans, who also make up the largest immigrant population in Northeast Florida, and greatly contribute to the multifaceted fabric of our society, culture, and economy while serving our community as both as local taxpayers and consumers; and

**WHEREAS:** Today in Jacksonville, over 20,000 active and retired military service men and women, nurses, medical professionals, teachers, lawyers, and other Filipino Americans have adopted the City of Jacksonville their home away from home.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY,** by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021, as

## PHILIPPINES INDEPENDENCE DAY

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to recognize the significance of the 123rd Philippines Independence Day and celebrate this historic day in our community.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June  
in the year Two Thousand 21

*Lenny Curry*

MAYOR