

**WHEREAS**, the history of Memorial Day dates back to the American Civil War; and

**WHEREAS**, it started as an event to honor soldiers who had died during the war; and

**WHEREAS**, Waterloo (New York) was officially declared the birthplace of Memorial Day by President Lyndon Johnson in May 1966; and

**WHEREAS**, in the late 19th century, the holiday (previously known as Decoration Day) became known as Memorial Day and was expanded to include the deceased veterans of all the wars fought by American forces; and

**WHEREAS**, originally, the holiday used to be celebrated on May 30, regardless of the day of the week that it fell on. In 1968, the Uniform Holidays Bill was passed and as a result the day changed.

**WHEREAS**, throughout the United States it is common to visit cemeteries, particularly military sites, and decorate graves of the deceased with flowers, small flags and wreathes; and

**WHEREAS**, other common traditions of Memorial Day include the raising of the U.S. flag quickly to the tops of flagpoles, slowly lowered to half-mast, and then it is raised again to full height at noon. The lowering of the flag at half-mast is meant to honor the fallen soldiers who have died for their country over the years. While re-raising the flag is meant to symbolize the resolve of the living to carry on the fight for freedom so that the nation's heroes will not have died in vain.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, THOMAS F. CARNEY, JR.**, Mayor of the City of Delray Beach, Florida, on behalf of the City Commission, do hereby proclaim May 27, 2024 as:

## **“MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE”**

in the City of Delray Beach, Florida, and urge all citizens, to honor the servicemen and women that have lost their lives while serving our country.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Delray Beach, Florida, to be affixed this 21<sup>st</sup> day of May 2024.

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**THOMAS F. CARNEY, JR.**  
**MAYOR**