



# CITY OF DELRAY BEACH

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## *PROCLAMATION*

**WHEREAS**, Kerry B. Koen was a dedicated public servant as the Fire Chief for Delray Beach from 1985 – 1994 and 2001 – 2007; and

**WHEREAS**, beginning his firefighting career he worked his way through the ranks to the rank of Fire Marshall where he helped pioneer the establishment of the EMS and Paramedic programs in the late 60's and early 70's.

**WHEREAS**, during his tenure, he oversaw significant improvements to facilities including several new fire stations and the new Fire Department Headquarters on Atlantic Avenue.

**WHEREAS**, as a Fire Chief, Kerry Koen was known as an innovator and a popular leader. He took pride in getting to know the men and women who worked with him and was prized as a mentor and friend.

**WHEREAS**, his vision was to uplift the department from being average to establishing a level of excellence that many area chiefs aspired to emulate.

**WHEREAS**, he was instrumental in upgrading the department's fleet and building three fire stations and was known for always remembering firefighters and their families.

**WHEREAS**, Chief Koen worked closely with both city and community leaders to foster a sense of collaboration that was needed to accomplish the department's goals.

**WHEREAS**, Kerry was beloved by his firefighters who trusted his steady leadership especially during times of strife. He mentored more than a generation of firefighters, elected officials and civic leaders and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the City Commission of Delray Beach does hereby proclaim June 3, 2025, as a day to honor the memory of former Fire Chief Kerry B. Koen, by celebrating his enormous legacy of service in our city.

### **HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF FORMER FIRE CHIEF KERRY B. KOEN**

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Delray Beach, Florida to be affixed this 3<sup>rd</sup> of June 2025.

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