



## **Proclamation**

*Board of County Commissioners  
Manatee County, Florida*

**WHEREAS**, several community agencies work independently and collaboratively in efforts to provide support, referrals, and continuum of care for victims of crime and their families in Manatee County; and

**WHEREAS**, advocates within those agencies serve a vital role in offering support services to these victims; and

**WHEREAS**, in the past year, Manatee County Sheriff's Office advocates provided services in response to cases dealing with elder abuse, physical assault, and robberies, and responded to DUI crashes and hit and runs; and

**WHEREAS**, Manatee Children Services' advocates engaged in a staggering number of child abuse cases; and

**WHEREAS**, Centerstone Sexual Assault Services, one of the state's 31 certified sexual assault centers, provided services to victims ranging from children to adults, and answered hundreds of calls to the 24-hour helpline from victims and community agencies; and

**WHEREAS**, advocates from HOPE Family Services provided assistance with numerous cases and provided families with shelter; and

**WHEREAS**, the State Attorney's advocate provided services to victims, ranging from children to adults, going through the judicial system; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 22, 2018, an Advocate Appreciation Ceremony will take place to give the community an opportunity to show its appreciation to these Victim Advocates.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida, that February 22, 2018, shall be known, designated, and set aside as

### **VICTIM ADVOCATES APPRECIATION DAY**

in Manatee County, Florida, and that the Board recognizes the service these advocates provide to victims of crime.

**ADOPTED** with a quorum present and voting this 13<sup>th</sup> day of February 2018.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

---

*Priscilla Trace, Chairman*

**ATTEST:** *Angelina Colonnese*  
*Clerk of the Circuit Court*

---