



Proclamation

Board of County Commissioners
Manatee County, Florida

WHEREAS, George Ellington, Deputy Chief of the East Manatee Fire Rescue District, began his 25-year career in the fire service with the Cedar Hammock Fire Control District, rising through the ranks from Firefighter to Engineer, Lieutenant, Fire Inspector, Captain, and Deputy Fire Marshal; and

WHEREAS, during his time at Cedar Hammock, Chief Ellington received a degree in 2002 from Manatee Community College and was chosen the Florida Fire Inspector of the Year in 2004. The Exchange Club of Manatee County also named him Firefighter of the Year in 2005; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, Chief Ellington was hired by the East Manatee Fire Rescue District as the Deputy Fire Marshal, and in 2008 was promoted to Deputy Chief and assumed the role of Fire Marshal where he managed the overall growth and improvement of the Fire Prevention Division expanding fire investigation services and ensuring that all Fire Inspectors obtained certifications as fire investigators; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, Chief Ellington instituted a program where Firefighters participate in commercial fire inspections which required the development of a curriculum, training over 50 personnel, and providing continued training, management, and oversight of this program; and

WHEREAS, as Fire Marshal, Chief Ellington rewrote the Fire Investigations, Fireworks and Fire Watch policies for East Manatee. The Fire Watch policy was adopted county-wide as was his submission of "the investigator's MARC," a check by dispatch every 30 minutes during fire investigations on the Investigator's well-being; and

WHEREAS, Chief Ellington chaired the Fire Marshal's committee of the Manatee County Fire Chiefs' Association for many years and was appointed to a committee of the Florida State Fire Marshal's Office to review and update the training curriculum of the state's Municipal Fire Inspector certification program; and

WHEREAS, Chief Ellington was selected as the Fire Officer of the Year for East Manatee in 2009 as well as Chief Fire Officer of the Year for the Manatee County Fire Chiefs' Association.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida, hereby recognize the exceptional loyalty and enthusiasm shown during the long and successful career of

CHIEF GEORGE ELLINGTON

and wish him continued success as he retires from the fire service on October 30, 2015.

ADOPTED, with a quorum present and voting this 20th day of October 2015.

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

Betsy Benac, Chairman

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