

**PROCLAMATION
OF THE SEMINOLE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RECOGNIZING
UNITED STATES ARMY STAFF SERGEANT ANDREW CARDONA FOR HIS OUTSTANDING
SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES AND SEMINOLE COUNTY**

WHEREAS, the brave men and women of our Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard, and Space Force demonstrate a resolute spirit and unmatched selflessness, reminding us there are few things more American than giving of ourselves to make a difference in the lives of others; and

WHEREAS, throughout our country's history, generations of service members have answered the call to leave their families, their jobs, and put their futures and even their lives on the line to valiantly defend our nation; and

WHEREAS, for many service members, the sacrifice has ended in permanent injury or death, yet their spirit remains in the continued preservation of our freedoms and the promise of liberty; and

WHEREAS, there are more than 30,000 living veterans in Seminole County who served our Nation in times of peace and war. Through their service, they kept America strong; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Andrew Cardona enlisted into the United States Army in 1967 during the Vietnam War and was Honorably discharged in 1970. He received numerous awards including the Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal w/3 Bronze service stars, and the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal with Palm Device; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Andrew Cardona was assigned to the 44th Medical Brigade and served as an Emergency Room Technician with the 29th Evacuation Hospital in the Mekong Delta. He also served with the 2nd Armored Division, Hell on Wheels, attached to the 15th Combat Engineers. Upon his return stateside, he joined the New Mexico National Guard for four years then the Army Reserves completing Airborne training at Fort Benning, Georgia earning the prestigious Parachute Badge; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Andrew Cardona graduated from the University of Albuquerque, New Mexico, with a bachelor's degree. He worked as a News Video Photographer and received service awards from the Albuquerque Press Club; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Andrew Cardona moved to Seminole County in 1985 and worked for several local television stations. He then came to work for Seminole County Government in 1995 in the Solid Waste office and then transferred to the SGTV office until 2001. After leaving Seminole County he worked in Public Relations with Volusia County Government until his retirement in 2015. He is a member of the Casselberry Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, and a life member of the Disabled American Veterans; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Andrew Cardona has brought great credit and distinction upon himself, the United States of America, the United States Army, and Seminole County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that we, the Board of County Commissioners of Seminole County, Florida, express our gratitude, admiration, and respect for Staff Sergeant Andrew Cardona, for his outstanding service to the United States Army and residents of Seminole County.

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that this Proclamation is presented to Staff Sergeant Andrew Cardona, along with our sincere congratulations and recognition as Seminole County's

“Veteran of the Month”

ADOPTED this 26th day of March 2024.



Jay Zembower, Chairman
Seminole County Board of County Commissioners