

PROCLAMATION 2017P-001

A PROCLAMATION OF THE HEALTH CARE DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO RECOGNIZE THE PALM BEACH COUNTY TRAUMA SYSTEM AND TO COMMEND THE MANY DEDICATED PROFESSIONALS WHOSE WORK SAVES LIVES.

WHEREAS, the Palm Beach County Trauma System, which is overseen and funded by the Health Care District of Palm Beach County, has provided lifesaving, rapid-response care to residents and visitors who suffer serious traumatic injuries for 26 years; and

WHEREAS, the Trauma System treated 4,048 trauma patients last year and over 66,748 trauma patients since inception on May 1, 1991; and

WHEREAS, trauma is the leading cause of death among Americans between 1 and 44 years old; and

WHEREAS, the integrated Trauma System provides access to specialized trauma services to all seriously injured in Palm Beach County within an average of 20 minutes of injury; and

WHEREAS, rapid and safe transport, comprehensive and immediate treatment, and early rehabilitation of trauma patients reduce the physical, emotional, and financial costs of traumatic injuries; and

WHEREAS, the success of Palm Beach County's integrated emergency-response system is the result of close collaboration between dedicated partners who are committed to saving lives; and

WHEREAS, trauma physicians, specialists, nurses, and other staff at the two Level I Trauma Centers - St. Mary's Medical Center and Delray Medical Center - and their associated rehabilitation centers are dedicated to ensuring that trauma victims receive life-saving care; and

WHEREAS, Palm Beach County Fire Rescue along with 10 other public and private EMS providers support the pre-hospital component of initial trauma care with dedicated nurses, paramedics, EMTs, 911 communications and dispatch staff, and emergency staff; and

WHEREAS, the Trauma Hawk aeromedical team conducted safe, expedited transfers of 466 patients from the scene and between hospitals in 2016; and

WHEREAS, the staff of the Health Care District's Trauma Agency continuously monitors trauma quality and provides clinical coordination of the entire Trauma System; and

WHEREAS, the Trauma Agency staff conducts outreach programs – an integral part of the county's trauma system – that provide community education about injury prevention, which is a proven approach to reducing death and disability and saving lives; and


WHEREAS, the Palm Beach County Trauma System is a mature, integrated system that meets or exceeds Florida trauma regulations and in 2016, an independent system-wide assessment noted that whenever its quality and safety metrics have been reviewed, the Trauma System "...uniformly demonstrates the care of the injured is best in class"; and

WHEREAS, the American Trauma Society has declared May 2017 as National Trauma Awareness Month; and

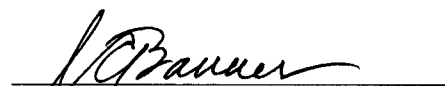
WHEREAS, the theme of Trauma Awareness Month this year, "Stop The Bleed," is to provide basic tools and information on the steps individuals can take in emergency situations to stop life threatening bleeding to save lives;

NOW, THEREFORE, on this 23rd day of May 2017, the HEALTH CARE DISTRICT OF PALM BEACH COUNTY Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the community, does hereby express its appreciation of the dedicated professionals who serve the Palm Beach County Trauma System and its support for the national "Stop the Bleed" campaign.

Upon call of a vote, the Chair thereupon declared the proclamation duly passed and adopted on this 23rd day of May 2017.



Philip H. Ward III, Chair



Nancy C. Banner, Esq., Secretary