

**WHEREAS,** Commissioner Rufus Jerry “Butch” Alexander of Fort Pierce, FL was born on April 19, 1949 in Lawnside, New Jersey to Sarah and Rufus Alexander, Jr. His family is a well-known pioneer family in the community dating back to 1902; and

**WHEREAS,** Butch was united in holy matrimony to the former Sandra Reddick. Their union joined their daughter Ayana with her other brothers and sisters, Alisa, Clesha, Tony, and Brian. “Butch” is the grandfather of fourteen and beloved great grandchildren.; and

**WHEREAS,** He attended ~~the~~ local elementary schools and Lincoln Park Academy High School. In 1964 he transferred to John Carroll High School, where he participated in track and field, basketball, and football. He graduated in 1967 and went on to attend Miami-Dade Community College and Tuskegee Institute. He later received his degree in Mortuary Science from Lynn University in Boca Raton, Florida in 1993; and

**WHEREAS,** Butch spent over forty-years in Funeral Services and was always committed to helping families in need; he served as the third generation Funeral Director at Sarah's Memorial Chapel and served as its General Manager and Vice President. He was recognized as Mortician of the year for the 1st Regional District of the Florida Mortician Association, Inc. in 2005, and served as Co-Chairman for the same organization.; and

**WHEREAS,** Butch was elected as City Commissioner District 1 for the City of Fort Pierce in December of 2001 and has continuously served since that time. He also served the community as a board member of the St Lucie County Fire District. He was an active participant with the Florida League of Cities and served on the Florida Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials. He served on the St. Lucie County Tourist Development Council and the Council on Aging of St. Lucie County, was a life member of NAACP, founding member of the Democratic Black Caucus of St Lucie, member of the Lincoln Park Business Association, founding member of St Lucie County Concerned Citizens, board member of the Boys & Girls Club and Weed & Seed, past board president of Agape, Inc., member of the Fort Pierce Masonic Lodge #155, and Cherokee Lodge #7270. Clearly, he gave his time and treasure to community service and activities serving Fort Pierce.

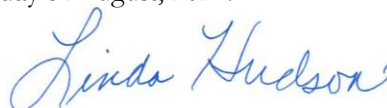
**WHEREAS,** Commissioner Alexander peacefully transitioned to his heavenly home on July 28, 2021. In one of his final interviews with TC Palm, Butch stated, “Be kind to the people. Never forget them.” which is a critical piece of his legacy.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Linda Hudson, Mayor of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, do hereby issue this proclamation in honor of:

## ***Commissioner Rufus Jerry “Butch” Alexander***

in appreciation and recognition of his many years of honorable and dedicated service to the City of Fort Pierce.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, to be affixed this 8<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021.



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Mayor