

WHEREAS, The Seminoles of Florida and free black militia were ordered to vacate their lands according to the Treaty of Mountie Creek 1823, the Indian Removal Act of 1830, and the Treaty of Payne's Landing 1832; and

WHEREAS, in 1835, black Seminole leaders prepared for war against the Army by recruiting enslaved people from plantations along St. Augustine's east coast to resist removal; and

WHEREAS, on New Year's Day in 1838, a regiment of soldiers worked on the west bank of the Indian River, clearing a site for their new fort and constructing a log house for shelter and protection. On January 2nd, the new wilderness outpost became operational. Fort Pierce honors Colonel Benjamin Kendrick Pierce, a lieutenant during the Second Seminole War; and

WHEREAS, on January 14, 1838, Major General Thomas S. Jessup, commander of all U.S. forces in Florida, designated Fort Pierce as the headquarters in the south while advancing toward Jupiter in pursuit of the Seminoles; and

WHEREAS, from 1835 to 1842, Seminoles and African Americans fought alongside each other against American troops who attempted to remove them from their homeland while defending their territories.

WHEREAS, no peace treaty was ever signed, and Colonel William Jennings Worth declared the war over on August 14, 1842; and

WHEREAS, today, the Seminoles remain unconquered 187 years later, as a result of the Army leaving the Treasure Coast area of Florida with no peace treaty signed.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Linda Hudson, Mayor of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, do hereby recognize:

The Battle of Loxahatchee

in the City of Fort Pierce and encourage our citizens to celebrate their unique history.

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 21st day of January 2025.

MAYOR/COMMISSIONER

