



CITY OF FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA



PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS,** lupus is an unpredictable and misunderstood autoimmune disease that can result in damage to any system in the body, can cause debilitating lifelong illness and can result in death; and

**WHEREAS,** more than five million people worldwide suffer the devastating effects of this mysterious disease and each year over a hundred thousand young women, men and children around the world are newly diagnosed, the great majority of whom are woman between the ages of 15- 44; and

**WHEREAS,** many physicians worldwide are unaware of symptoms and health effects of lupus, causing people with lupus to suffer for an average of 6 years before they obtain a correct diagnosis and medical treatment; and

**WHEREAS,** medical research efforts into lupus and the discovery of safer, more effective treatments for lupus patients, but are still under-funded in comparison with diseases of comparable magnitude and severity; and

**WHEREAS,** there is a deep, unmet need worldwide to educate and support individuals and families affected by this disease; and

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Linda Hudson, Mayor of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, do hereby proclaim May 2026 as:

***Lupus Awareness Month***

in the City of Fort Pierce and call for increases in public and private sector funding for medical research, targeted education programs for health professionals, patients, and the public, and recognition of lupus as a significant public health issue.

**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 18<sup>th</sup> day of May 2026.

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**MAYOR/COMMISSIONER**

