

***Town of Fort Myers Beach
PROCLAMATION***

WHEREAS, The Town of Ft. Myers Beach, in Lee County, Florida, with its unique weather and water resources, offers special water-related recreational activities to its residents, and people from around the world; and

WHEREAS, this area's miles of saltwater tidal coastline, rivers, bays and canals provide many of the needed outlets for recreation and relaxation; and

WHEREAS, recreational boating is one of Florida's leading outdoor activities with more than 44,000 registered boats in Lee county alone, distinguishing Florida as the "Boating Capital of the World"; and

WHEREAS, every year lives are lost in boating accidents in spite of the educational efforts of the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, the U.S. Power Squadrons, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission, and local agencies; and

WHEREAS, federal state and local agencies and private companies and groups have combined their efforts to reduce boating accidents by developing and executing safety training programs, such as, "Boat Smart – Boat Safe", and "You're in Command"; and

WHEREAS, the sponsors of these programs have focused their efforts toward youth and general public of Ft. Myers Beach, Florida, urging them to enhance boating pleasure and avoid possible loss of life, while reducing the loss of property, and marine accidents; and

WHEREAS on average, 700 people die each year in boating-related accidents in the U.S.; where cause of death was known, 75% of fatal boating accident victims drowned. Of those drowning victims with reported life jacket usage, 86% were not wearing a life jacket.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Fort Myers Beach, Florida, does hereby designate May 21 - May 27, 2022 as

SAFE BOATING WEEK

and urges all citizens to join in learning and practicing safe boating by wearing a life jacket, taking boating education courses, getting a vessel safety check, operating their vessels responsibly, safely, soberly, and obeying Coast Guard regulations established after September 11th related to Homeland Security.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the Mayor and Council of the Town of Ft. Myers Beach, have hereunto subscribed their names and have caused the official Seal of the Town of Fort Myers Beach to be hereunto affixed on the 2nd Day in May, 2022

Ray Murphy, Mayor