



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, beginning October 7, 2023, the terrorist group, Harakat al-Muqawama al-Islamiya (HAMAS) attacked the State of Israel; and

WHEREAS, the terrorists raped, tortured, and killed over 1,400 innocent civilians; constituting the worst massacre of Jews since the Holocaust, according to the Congressional Research Service; and

WHEREAS, the innocent civilians included babies, young children, and the elderly; and

WHEREAS, over 4,500 civilians were injured in this attack and over 220 civilians were taken hostage by HAMAS; and

WHEREAS, those killed, injured, or taken hostage included citizens of the United States of America including 32 brutally murdered and at least 20 more missing or taken hostage as reported by the United States Department of State and the Congressional Research Service; and

WHEREAS, HAMAS indiscriminately launched over 6,000 rockets at Israeli communities, including homes, schools and hospitals; and

WHEREAS, the Iranian regime provides financial and logistical support to terrorist groups, including HAMAS and Hezbollah, and praised these unconscionable atrocities committed against innocent civilians; and

WHEREAS, we pray for the people of the State of Israel and all those affected by this unjustified and heinous massacre and an end to the terrorist groups and those that fund and support them;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Sumter County, Florida hereby:

1. Condemns the unprovoked and barbaric massacres by HAMAS against the citizens of Israel.
2. Unequivocally supports the right and obligation of Israel to defend itself and protect its citizens from indiscriminate violence and terrorism.
3. Calls for the President of the United States to protect the citizens of the United States from all aggression of terrorist groups.

DONE AND PROCLAIMED this 14th day of November 2023, Sumter County, Florida.

Attest:



Deputy Clerk

Janette Jacob

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SUMTER COUNTY**

Craig A. Estep
Craig A. Estep, Chairman