



CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER  
**JIMMY PATRONIS**  
STATE OF FLORIDA

**PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, Florida's firefighters and first responders serve our state with the utmost dedication, compassion, and honor; and

**WHEREAS**, because of their heroic profession, they often respond to tragic events, but they lean on their rigorous training and selflessly work to save the lives of others and keep our communities safe; and

**WHEREAS**, first responders are generally considered to be at greater risk for full or partial Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) than most other occupations because their duties routinely entail confrontation with traumatic stressors; and

**WHEREAS**, individuals with PTSD have intense, disturbing thoughts and feelings related to their experience that last long after the traumatic event has ended and can relive the event through flashbacks or nightmares; and

**WHEREAS**, almost 13 million people in the United States suffer from PTSD with an estimated 5 out of every 100 adults in any given year; and

**WHEREAS**, firefighters alone are attempting suicide at a rate five times higher than the general population and first responders as a whole are attempting suicide at rate more than ten times higher than the general population; and

**WHEREAS**, Florida recognized the need for services and benefits for our first responders suffering from PTSD and implemented legislation in 2019 addressing this underserved population; and

**WHEREAS**, it is never too late to get treatment for PTSD with many more options available today than were available even a year ago; and

**WHEREAS**, National Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Awareness Day is intended to raise public awareness about issues related to PTSD, reduce the stigma associated with PTSD, and help ensure that those suffering from the invisible wounds receive proper treatment.


**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Chief Financial Officer and State Fire Marshal of the State of Florida recognizes Thursday, June 27, 2024, as

**NATIONAL POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER AWARENESS DAY**

and encourages those that are silently suffering to get the assistance they need to live a healthy and productive life.

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF** the Chief Financial Officer and State Fire Marshal of the State of Florida has hereunto subscribed his name and has caused the Official Seal of the State of Florida to be hereunto affixed in the City of Tallahassee on the 27th day of June 2024.



  
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**JIMMY PATRONIS**  
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER  
STATE FIRE MARSHALL