

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH**

WHEREAS, suicide is a national public health crisis that affects individuals from all walks of life, with over 45,000 Americans dying by suicide each year, making it one of the leading causes of death in the United States; and

WHEREAS, suicide and suicidal behavior can affect anyone regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity, or socioeconomic status, causing deep and long-lasting impacts on families, friends, and communities; and

WHEREAS, the month of September is nationally recognized as Suicide Prevention Month, a time to raise awareness, offer support, and encourage proactive steps to reduce the stigma surrounding mental health and suicide prevention; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Caddo Parish are encouraged to recognize the signs of suicide risk, such as feelings of hopelessness, withdrawal, and significant changes in behavior, and to connect individuals in crisis with the necessary resources and support; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission is committed to working with health care providers, educators, law enforcement, and local organizations to promote mental wellness and to ensure that suicide prevention strategies are accessible to all residents; and

WHEREAS, raising awareness and educating the community on the resources available through the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and local mental health services can help save lives and create a stronger, more resilient community in Caddo Parish;

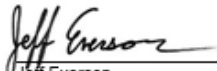
WHEREAS, within National Suicide Prevention Month are days dedicated to specific purpose including World Suicide Prevention Day on September 10<sup>th</sup>, and of special note, Veteran's Suicide Prevention Day which is on September 22<sup>nd</sup> to symbolize the average of 22 Veterans who loose their lives to suicide each day; and


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, in legal and regular session convened, that September 2025 is hereby declared as Suicide Prevention Month in Caddo Parish, in conjunction with the National Suicide Prevention Month and including a declaration of September 22<sup>nd</sup> as Veterans Suicide Prevention Day; and

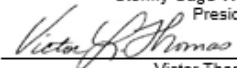
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Caddo Parish Commission urges all citizens, businesses, and institutions to work together to raise awareness about suicide prevention, promote mental health services, and offer support to individuals who may be at risk.

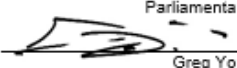
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution will be made available to local health care organizations, mental health professionals, and community partners engaged in suicide prevention efforts as a token of support and collaboration.

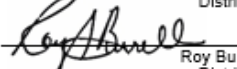
ATTEST:

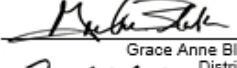
  
Jeff Everson  
Commission Clerk

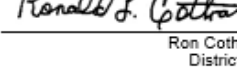
  
Stormy Gage-Watts  
President

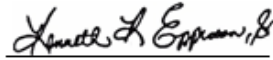
  
Victor Thomas  
Parliamentarian

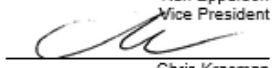
  
Greg Young  
District 2


  
Roy Burrell  
District 5


  
Grace Anne Blake  
District 8

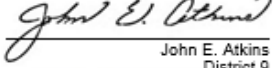
  
Ron Cothran  
District 10

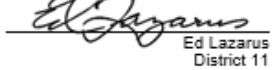
  
Ken Epperson  
Vice President

  
Chris Kraeaman  
District 1

  
John Paul Young  
District 4

  
Steffon Jones  
District 6

  
John E. Atkins  
District 9

  
Ed Lazarus  
District 11