

**A PROCLAMATION OF WELLINGTON, FLORIDA'S
COUNCIL RECOGNIZING DISTRICT CHIEF MICHAEL
ARENA FOR HIS YEARS OF SERVICE WITH PALM
BEACH COUNTY FIRE RESCUE AND TO THE VILLAGE
OF WELLINGTON**

WHEREAS, District Chief Michael Arena was born in the Bronx, New York in October 1966, growing up predominantly in Miami, Florida and graduating from Miami Norland High School in 1984. He married his wife Laura Marie in 1991 and they have three children, Michael, age 23, Angela, age 20 and Cristina, age 15; and;

WHEREAS, Chief Arena holds an Associate's Degree in Fire and Emergency Medical Services, a Bachelor's in Fire Science Management, a Master's in Public Administration, graduated from the FEMA Executive Officer Program (EFO) and is a credentialed International Chief Fire Officer through the Commission of Fire Accreditation International (CFAI). He also serves as the Operations Section Chief on the South Florida Region 7 All Hazards Incident Management Team; and

WHEREAS, he began his career with Palm Beach County Fire Rescue in 1986 as a firefighter, becoming an EMT (Emergency Medical Technician), Paramedic, serving as a station Officer and EMS Lieutenant in South County, ultimately becoming District Chief in 2012 responsible for 225 personnel and all aspects of fire rescue services covering Wellington, Royal Palm Beach, Loxahatchee and the Acreage; and

WHEREAS, Chief Arena has also served as Chief of Aircraft Rescue & Firefighting at PBJA, coordinated the merger of South Bay, Belle Glade and Pahokee into Palm Beach County Fire Rescue and serving as their initial District Chief from 2006 to 2010, serves as President of the Glades Leadership Board and an appointee to the Belle Glade Chamber of Commerce and Team Leader, Annual Compliance Reviewer and Mentor for the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) and a member of the United States Coast Guard (since 1985), retiring as a Commissioned Officer in 1999 with the rank of O-3 Lieutenant. He was deployed for Operation Desert Storm in 1990, the post September 11 attacks and Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

WHEREAS, Chief Arena has led an exemplary career, providing leadership and the highest level of service to Wellington and its residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Village Council of Wellington, Florida does hereby recognize District Chief Michael Arena for his many years of service with Palm Beach County Fire Rescue and his dedication to the Village of Wellington and its residents and wishes him all the best in his future endeavors.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the Seal of Wellington, Florida to be affixed this 27th day of June, 2017.

ATTEST:

WELLINGTON, FLORIDA

BY: _____
Rachel R. Callovi, Deputy Village Clerk

BY: _____
Anne Gerwig, Mayor