## THE VILLAGE OF ESTERO PROCLAMATION

## **Purple Heart Village**

**WHEREAS**, the people of the Village of Estero, Florida have a great admiration and the utmost gratitude for all the men and women who selflessly served their Country in the armed forces; and

WHEREAS, the Purple Heart is the oldest military decoration in present use and was initially created as the Badge of Military Merit by General George Washington in 1782; and

WHEREAS, the Purple Heart was the first American service award or decoration made available to the common soldier and specifically awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces who have been wounded or paid the ultimate sacrifice in combat with a declared enemy of the United States of America; and

**WHEREAS,** the Village of Estero has a highly decorated Veteran population including many Purple Heart recipients; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Estero appreciates the sacrifices our Purple Heart recipients made in defending our freedoms and believe that it is important that we acknowledge them for their courage and show them the honor and support they have earned.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Village Council of the Village of Estero, Florida, does hereby proclaim the Village of Estero as a PURPLE HEART VILLAGE and encourages the citizens of Estero to show their appreciation for the sacrifices that the Purple Heart recipients have made in defending our freedom, to acknowledge their courage, and to show them the honor and support they have earned.

**IN WITNESS THEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Village of Estero, Florida to be affixed, this 7<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2018.

MAYOR

James R. Boesch, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathy Hall, MMC, Village Clerk