## Supreme Court of Florida

## PROCLAMATION In re: Drug Court Month

WHEREAS, drug courts and other problem-solving courts provide the focus and leadership to improve substance use, mental illness, and treatment outcomes and facilitate community-wide partnerships to enhance public safety and public health; and

WHEREAS, drug courts and other problem-solving courts address the root causes of justice system involvement by providing a multidisciplinary team approach with intensive judicial supervision and evidence-based treatment to break the cycle of addiction, reduce recidivism, and restore lives; and

WHEREAS, drug courts and other problem-solving courts provide the opportunity for participants to improve their education, employment, housing, and financial stability; and

WHEREAS, drug courts and other problem-solving courts promote confidence in and satisfaction with the justice system process, save the State of Florida substantial taxpayer dollars, and are recognized as the most successful justice system intervention for individuals with substance use and mental health disorders; and

WHEREAS, the judges, case managers, attorneys, treatment professionals, law enforcement and corrections personnel, researchers and educators, national and community leaders, and others who are dedicated to the drug court and other problem-solving court movement have had a profound impact through hard work and commitment to their communities; and

WHEREAS, the first drug court was established in Miami, Florida, in 1989 and has served as a model for 182 problem-solving courts currently operational in Florida and more than 4,000 problem-solving courts currently operational throughout the world.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, Charles T. Canady, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all who are observing National Drug Court Month, May 2022, which not only recognizes practitioners and participants who contribute to the success of drug courts and other problem-solving courts but also acknowledges the significant role of problem-solving courts in meeting the challenges of substance use and mental illness in Florida and throughout the nation.

DONE IN CHAMBERS on this Twenty-Ninth Day of April in the Year Two Thousand Twenty-Two.

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Chief Justice Charles T. Canady

ATTEST:

John A. Tomasino, Clerk of Court

