

## **PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, purchasing professionals play a significant role in the efficient and effective operations of both government and business; and

**WHEREAS**, the Escambia County Office of Purchasing is responsible for the acquisition of equipment, materials, supplies, and services vital to the operations, facilities, and infrastructure that contribute to the high quality of life for all County residents. The Office of Purchasing adds value to the procurement process by re-engineering, developing, and implementing innovative, unique, efficient, and cost-effective procurement practices; and

**WHEREAS**, purchasing professionals are tasked with executing and implementing contracts, developing, and improving tactical procurement strategies, and cultivating great working relationships with vendors and all County Departments; and

**WHEREAS**, the public procurement professionals working for Escambia County, Florida, are responsible for complying with County Ordinances, State Statutes, and Federal Regulations for purchases totaling hundreds of millions of dollars per year; and

**WHEREAS**, whenever called upon, government procurement professionals work in pressing conditions to meet challenges and secure materials, resources, and personal protective equipment for frontline workers, contributing to the County's rapid response to the needs of its citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the Escambia County Office of Purchasing is a member of the National Institute for Governmental Procurement (NIGP). The NIGP recognizes, supports, and practices the public procurement values and guiding principles of accountability, ethics, impartiality, professionalism service, and transparency; and

**WHEREAS**, the Central Gulf Coast Chapter of the NIGP selected Lyndsey Stevens, Interim Purchasing Director, as the "2023 Manager of the Year," and Abigail Raymond as the "2023 Specialist of the Year." These accomplishments serve as a reflection of the outstanding performance displayed by the Escambia County Office of Purchasing; and

**WHEREAS**, with the observance of "Purchasing Month," the NIGP seeks to further expand the awareness of the procurement professional's role to governmental officials, the general public, and corporate leaders.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED**, that the Board of County Commissioners of Escambia County, Florida, hereby proclaim the month of March 2024 as

### **"PURCHASING MONTH"**

in Escambia County, Florida, and urges residents to recognize and honor the ongoing contributions of America's purchasing professionals to the betterment of our community and the nation.

#### **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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Steven Barry, Chairman, District Five

Jeff Bergosh, District One

Michael Kohler, District Two

Lumon J. May, District Three

**ATTEST: Pam Childers**  
**Clerk of the Circuit Court**

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Deputy Clerk  
Dated: March 21, 2024