

**Before the Board of County Commissioners
Martin County, Florida**

A Proclamation

Declaring Falls Prevention Awareness Month in Martin County, Florida

Whereas, falls are the leading cause of injury-related deaths, hospitalizations, emergency department visits, and extended health care facility accident-related admissions among Floridians 65 and older; and almost 28 percent of Martin County residents are 65 years of age or older; and

Whereas, it is estimated that annually there are more than 150,000 hospital-treated falls and injuries among Floridians 65 and older, with medical charges exceeding \$2.6 billion; and

Whereas, falling and the fear of falling can lead to depression, loss of mobility, and loss of functional independence; and

Whereas, the Florida Department of Elder Affairs, the Florida Department of Health/Office of Injury Prevention, and state Area Agencies on Aging, in partnership with Florida cities, counties, and residents, are working to increase awareness of this issue and encourage Florida residents to take steps to protect those who are at risk of falling.

Now, therefore, be it proclaimed by the Martin County Board of County Commissioners that September 2021 is Falls Prevention Awareness Month in Martin County, Florida. Further, the Board encourages all residents to be more aware of the dangers of fall-related injuries and to take the necessary precautions to ensure safety from falls.

Presented this Twenty-eighth Day of September 2021

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER

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