



Proclamation

WHEREAS, more than 100,000 men, women, and children in the United States need a life-saving organ transplant. In many cases, an organ donation provides another chance to live a full life. For those waiting for that gift of life -- the uncertainty can be excruciating, exacting a physical and emotional toll on the potential recipient and their loved ones; and

WHEREAS, Miss Ocala and Miss Gainesville Casana Fink has been advocating since she was 15 years old on the importance of organ and tissue donation. After her father fell ill and was in and out of the hospital as he waited for a liver transplant for over a year, she became very aware of the need for organ donors and has advocated fiercely with her non-profit organization “Give to Life - Donate Life” as well as alongside Donate Life Florida, Lifequest Organ Recovery, and OurLegacy. She has worked extremely hard to create lasting relationships within the transplant community through her activism; and

WHEREAS, Casana travels throughout the State of Florida to share her story and has educated middle and high school students on the topic. She has spoken to civic organizations and charitable groups throughout Central Florida, including the Rotary Club, March of Dimes, Department of Motor Vehicles (DMVs), Women’s Clubs, and various churches; and

WHEREAS, Casana is currently authoring a children's book to make the topic more comprehensive for children of all ages. She recently was on the board for a 5k/8k run for organ donation through Donate Life Florida. She has partnered with the University of North Florida and LifeQuest to create marketing information that will be used for education. Casana also tables outside of the DMVs to promote individuals to become organ donors, as well as inform them on the option to purchase the Donate Life License Plate which proceeds go directly towards education on organ and tissue donation. Finally, and most importantly, she is hoping to pass a bill in Florida that will incentivize individuals to become organ and tissue donors when they renew their license.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kent Guinn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Ocala, Florida, do hereby publicly recognize **Casana Fink** for her dedication and selfless service to educate and advocate on the importance of organ and tissue donation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Ocala, Florida, to be affixed this 18th day of April 2022.

Kent Guinn, Mayor
City of Ocala

