



COMMENDATION JERIKA ELIZABETH RUDOLPH

WHEREAS, on the afternoon of August 24, 2017, in the City of Key West, 18-year-old JERIKA ELIZABETH RUDOLPH was riding with her sister in the northbound lane of South Roosevelt Boulevard when she heard her sister gasp. An SUV travelling in the opposite direction at a high rate of speed crossed over both lanes of the roadway and over the seawall into the adjacent channel; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Rudolph told her sister to call 911 for assistance, and then ran to the rapidly sinking SUV to render aid. The SUV was being pulled by strong currents in the channel. Disregarding her own safety, Ms. Rudolph got in the water and helped the occupants of the SUV: a man who was driving, a woman passenger and a child, who were attempting to break the windshield to escape. Ms. Rudolph was successful in pulling the woman and child out of the vehicle and helping them to safety. Police officers arrived quickly and helped the man to safety as well. Fortunately, no one was seriously injured, with credit due to the selfless response of Ms. Rudolph.

WHEREAS, Ms. Rudolph was born and raised in Key West, and thanks to her heroic actions on August 24, 2017, everyone involved survived an incident which could have ended tragically, but for her selfless and courageous act.

In recognition of this outstanding act of courage and citizenship, the City Commission of the City of Key West hereby presents this commendation to:

JERIKA ELIZABETH RUDOLPH

WITNESS our hand and seal of the City of Key West, Florida, this 6th day of September, 2017.

Donald J. Lee, Jr., Chief of Police

Craig Cates, Mayor