



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the City of Key West celebrates our local small businesses and the contributions they make to our local economy and community; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Small Business Administration, there are 33 million small businesses in the United States, small businesses represent 99.7% of firms with paid employees, small businesses are responsible for 62.7% of net new jobs created since 1995, and small businesses employ 46.4% of the employees in the private sector in the United States; and

WHEREAS, 68 cents of every dollar spent at a small business in the United States stays in the local community and every dollar spent at small businesses creates an additional 48 cents in local business activity as a result of employees and local businesses purchasing local goods and services; and

WHEREAS, 72% of consumers reported that Small Business Saturday 2022 made them want to shop and dine at small, independently-owned retailers and restaurants all year long; and

WHEREAS, the City of Key West supports our local businesses that create jobs, boost our local economy, and preserve our communities; and

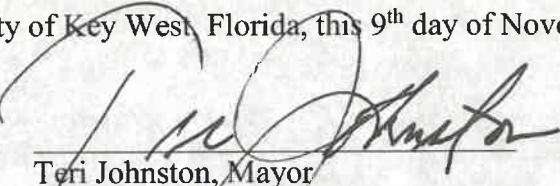
WHEREAS, advocacy groups, as well as public and private organizations, across the country have endorsed the Saturday after Thanksgiving as Small Business Saturday.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Teri Johnston, Mayor of the City of Key West and the entire City Commission of Key West, Florida do hereby proclaim, November 25th, 2023, as

SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

in the "Southernmost City of the Continental United States" and I would like to urge all citizens, residents, and visitors of our Southernmost City to support small businesses and merchants on Small Business Saturday and to Shop Small throughout the year.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the City of Key West, Florida, this 9th day of November 2023.



Teri Johnston, Mayor