



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, National Black Business Month was founded in 2004 as an initiative to recognize Black-owned businesses, highlight their importance to communities and the national economy, and to encourage their continued development and success; and

WHEREAS, promoting and supporting Black-owned businesses is a critical step in addressing the racial wealth gap that persists in our country, rooted in centuries of slavery, segregation, and other institutionalized forms of social and economic oppression; and

WHEREAS, Black-owned businesses provide family-supporting jobs and careers to people, which are essential for local communities and economies to flourish; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the challenges faced by African-Americans in accessing capital, resources, and opportunities for business development, we celebrate the achievements of Black business owners who have overcome these obstacles and succeeded through perseverance, ingenuity and with the support of economic programs.

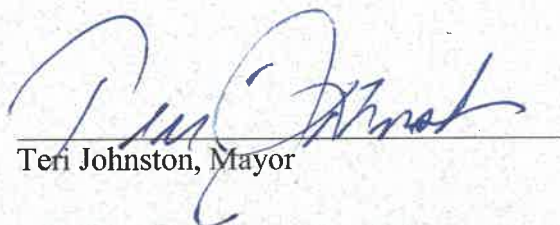
NOW, THEREFORE, I, TERI JOHNSTON, MAYOR of the City of Key West, along with the entire Key West City Commission do hereby proclaim the month of August as

BLACK BUSINESS MONTH

in the "Southernmost City of the Continental United States." I would like to urge all citizens, residents, and visitors of our Southernmost City to participate fittingly in the observation.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the City of Key West, Florida, this 8th day of August 2024.




Teri Johnston, Mayor