

PROCLAMATION

DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 2018, AS ALPHA-1 ANTITRYPSIN DEFICIENCY (ALPHA-1) AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency (Alpha-1) is one of the most common and serious hereditary disorders in the world and can result in life threatening lung disease in adults and liver disease in both children and adults; and,

WHEREAS, Alpha-1 has been identified in nearly all populations and ethnic groups, it is estimated that about 1 in every 2,500 Americans have Alpha-1 and up to 6 percent of Caucasians in the U.S. carry a single deficient gene and may pass the gene on to their children; and,

WHEREAS, Alpha-1 is widely under diagnosed and misdiagnosed, and fewer than ten percent of those predicted to have Alpha-1 have been diagnosed, and it often takes an average of five doctors and seven years from the time symptoms appear before proper diagnosis is made, which can be done using a simple blood test; and

WHEREAS, it is important to increase awareness and detection of this serious hereditary and misdiagnosed disorder; and,

WHEREAS, during the month of November, a nationwide awareness campaign will take place throughout the country to educate the public as well as the medical community on Alpha-1 detection and treatment for those affected by this condition.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA that the month of November, 2018, be designated as

ALPHA-1 ANTITRYPSIN DEFICIENCY AWARENESS MONTH

in Indian River County and the Board extends greetings and best wishes to all observing November 2018 as Alpha-1 Awareness Month.

Adopted this 6th day of November, 2018.



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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