

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Illicit uses of opioids and stimulants have reached epidemic proportions, with a surge in fentanyl use having far-reaching, destructive impacts on Florida and the nation; and

WHEREAS, Drug addiction takes a severe toll on the lives of millions. Human suffering, health impairment, overdoses, and death are coupled with added impacts of family disruption, job losses, increased crime, and taxpayer expense to address these and related problems in the justice, social services, and healthcare systems; and

WHEREAS, The effects are apparent throughout Florida courts, including drug courts, family courts, mental health courts, veteran courts, among other areas of the judicial system; and

WHEREAS, To raise awareness about opioid and stimulant use issues and disorders, Florida Supreme Court Chief Justice Carlos G. Muñoz issued a proclamation establishing September 2022 as a month of awareness, training, and action regarding opioids, stimulants, and treatment for related substance use disorders.

Therefore, **September 2022** is hereby proclaimed:

Opioid Awareness Month

