

Proclamation

WHEREAS, general aviation plays a critical role in the lives of our citizens, as well as in the operation of our businesses and agriculture; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida has a significant interest in the continued vitality of general aviation, aircraft and aerospace manufacturing, commercial service and community airports, and aviation education; and

WHEREAS, there are 19 commercial service and 110 general aviation/community airports, helping make Florida the number two state for aerospace and aviation establishments in the United States; and

WHEREAS, more than 8.5 percent of Florida Gross State Product results from businesses dependent upon aviation; and

WHEREAS, international airports in Florida accommodate more than 29.1 million international passengers annually, which is 14.5 percent of the total international passengers in the nation; and

WHEREAS, Florida has made significant investments in our airports, which has helped bring record numbers of tourists to Florida, with 50.5 percent of Florida's visitors arriving each year by air and Florida's general aviation/community airports accommodating more than 9 million visitors and business travelers annually; and

WHEREAS, air cargo operations account for more than \$10.3 billion in annual economic activity to Florida and, in total, aviation represents more than \$144 billion in annual economic activity; and

WHEREAS, numerous leading aviation companies have headquarters or a major presence in Florida.

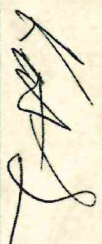
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kent Guinn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Ocala, Florida, do hereby proclaim General Aviation a vital strategic resource to the State of Florida and declare December 2015 to be

General Aviation Appreciation Month in Florida

and I urge all citizens to pay special recognition to General Aviation and the Ocala International Airport for their dedicated and selfless service to our community and our State.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Ocala, Florida, to be affixed this 8th day of December 2015.




Kent Guinn, Mayor
City of Ocala