

City of Fort Lauderdale
Distinguished Citizen

**PROCLAMATION HONORING
RONALD J. CENTAMORE
AS DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN FOR 2017**

- WHEREAS,** *Ronald J. Centamore was born on July 21, 1947 in Brooklyn, New York, graduated from Middletown High School in 1967, proudly served as a member of the United States Army from 1968 to 1970, earned a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from the New York University College of Technology, and received a Master's degree in Public Administration from John Jay College of Criminal Justice; and*
- WHEREAS,** *After working as a police officer and crime analyst for the Newburgh, New York Police Department, Ron Centamore moved to South Florida and, in 1981, began a 20-year career with the Fort Lauderdale Police Department, serving 15 years as the neighborhood police officer in Victoria Park where he protected life and property, worked to significantly reduce crime, and was instrumental in advancing the neighborhood's revitalization; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Following his distinguished tenure with the Fort Lauderdale Police Department, Ron Centamore has continued to give back to our community through his extensive civic involvement and community activism. In the early 2000s, he moved to the Progresso Village neighborhood and, as a board member, helped spearhead the area's transformation into a diverse, eclectic, and vibrant urban enclave; and*
- WHEREAS,** *In the mid-2000s, Ron Centamore turned his attention to downtown, becoming a founding member of the Downtown Fort Lauderdale Civic Association where, serving as the group's first President, led efforts to secure grant funding for signage and lighting improvements, coordinated the Downtown Ambassador Program, participated in the Our Vision Fort Lauderdale project, and addressed numerous quality of life issues related to development, noise, safety, traffic, and mobility; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Ron Centamore served on the City's Ad Hoc Code Reform Committee, Code Amnesty Committee, and Homeless Task Force and, today, continues to make a difference as President of the Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Associations, Chairman of the Northwest-Progresso-Flagler Heights Redevelopment Advisory Board, and President of the Progresso Village Civic Association. He has received numerous accolades for his outstanding contributions to the progress and advancement of our City, including the Downtown Fort Lauderdale Civic Association's Champions of Downtown Award and the Fort Lauderdale Transportation and Mobility Department's inaugural Neighbor Champion Award; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Ron Centamore's exemplary leadership and vision, his tireless civic engagement, and his stalwart commitment to enhancing neighborhoods and building community have played, and will continue to play a vital role in transforming Fort Lauderdale into the "City You Never Want to Leave";*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA:

- Section 1:** *That Ron Centamore is hereby selected and honored as Distinguished Citizen of the City of Fort Lauderdale for 2017 in recognition of his many accomplishments and valuable contributions to the City of Fort Lauderdale and that the City Commission of the City of Fort Lauderdale hereby publicly recognizes and acknowledges these achievements and contributions and does hereby express its heartfelt appreciation to Ron Centamore.*
- Section 2:** *That a bronze plaque honoring Ron Centamore as Distinguished Citizen of the City of Fort Lauderdale for 2017 shall be placed in the courtyard of Fort Lauderdale City Hall, and his portrait shall hang in City Hall.*
- Section 3:** *That a copy of this proclamation and a keepsake recognizing Ron Centamore as the 2017 Distinguished Citizen shall be presented to him as a further token of the sincere gratitude and appreciation of the City of Fort Lauderdale.*

DATED this, *the 7th day of November 2017.*




Mayor John P. "Jack" Seiler

