

City of Gainesville, Florida

Office of Mayor Lauren Poe
PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Hurricane Michael slammed into the Florida Panhandle with winds topping 155 miles an hour, causing extensive property damage and significant loss of life on October 10, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the City of Gainesville, through its utility, Gainesville Regional Utilities (GRU), is a member of the Florida Municipal Power Association and thus may request or provide mutual aid support to other Florida municipal utilities following major storms/hurricanes; and

WHEREAS, GRU Water/Wastewater offered, and was called upon, to provide mutual aid support to Springfield, Florida, Mexico Beach, Florida, and Talquin Electric in Greater Tallahassee, Florida, in the aftermath of Hurricane Michael; and

WHEREAS, GRU Water/Wastewater, in response to this request for mutual aid support, assembled and dispatched a 25-member workforce of Emory Prevatt, Billy Dampier, Doug Hoffman, Josh Coleman, Mitch West, Brian Melvin, Kyle McManis, Pat Farmer, Jay Daly, Mark Bell, Daniel Ferguson, Robbie Bartlett, Brandon Kite, Blake Brown, Jose Rivera, Todd Hines, Derrick Sapp, Tyler DeRosa, Leo Sache, Wayne Feagle, Marcus Mitchell, Larry McCord, Keegan Lowery, Tom Hoskins and Levi Lee; and

WHEREAS, these Water/Wastewater crews, in a dangerous and uncomfortable work environment, with great personal sacrifice, contributed to the restoration of water distribution systems, sanitary sewer services and water and wastewater pumping facilities that brought quick, safe, effective relief to thousands of fellow Floridians suffering through this ordeal.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lauren Poe, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim January 3, 2019 as

GRU Water/Wastewater Day

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in recognizing the long hours, service above and beyond the call of duty, and great personal sacrifice and in expressing our deepest appreciation to all of the men and women who provided mutual aid assistance following Hurricane Michael, as well as the employees back home who worked additional hours in their absence, by presenting this proclamation of gratitude and thanks to each of them.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 10th day of December, A.D., 2018.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lauren Poe', is written over a thin horizontal line.

Lauren Poe
Mayor