



Proclamation

WHEREAS, the City of Ocala, Florida, celebrates our local small businesses and the contribution they make to our local economy and community and, according to the United States Small Business Administration, there are currently 28.8 million small businesses in the United States which represents more than 99.7 percent of American employer firms, and small businesses are responsible for two thirds of net new jobs created over the last 3 years; and

WHEREAS, small businesses employ over 55 percent of the working population in the United States; and

WHEREAS, 62 percent of businesses in the United States have 5 or fewer employees; and **WHEREAS**, 89 percent of consumers in the United States agree that small businesses contribute positively to the local community by supplying jobs and generating tax revenue; and

WHEREAS, 87 percent of consumers in the United States agree that small businesses are critical to the overall economic health of the United States; and

WHEREAS, 93 percent of consumers in the United States agree that it is important for people to support the small businesses that they value in their community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ocala supports our local businesses that create jobs, boost our local economy and preserve our neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Ocala Main Street and other advocacy groups, as well as public and private organizations across the country have endorsed the Saturday after Thanksgiving as Small Business Saturday.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kent Guinn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Ocala, Florida, do hereby proclaim November 25, 2017, as:

SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

and I urge the residents of our community, and communities across the country, to support small businesses and merchants on Small Business Saturday and throughout the year.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Ocala, Florida, to be affixed this 7th day of November, 2017.

Kent Guinn, Mayor
City of Ocala

