

Proclamation

Office of the Mayor

Hazelle P. Rogers Day

WHEREAS, Hazelle P. Rogers, County Commissioner for District 9, was born in Kingston, Jamaica, and immigrated to the United States in 1969 to reunite with her mother in New York, later relocating to Florida in 1982 where she built a distinguished legacy of public service and community leadership; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Rogers began her historic political journey in 1996 when she was elected to office in the City of Lauderdale Lakes, becoming the first individual from the English-speaking Caribbean American community elected to public office in the southeastern United States, and faithfully served for 12 years, including as President of the Broward League of Cities in 2004; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, she was elected to the Florida House of Representatives, becoming the first Jamaican and only the second person from the English-speaking Caribbean to serve in that body, where she served as Democratic Deputy Whip and Democratic Ranking Member on the House Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee; and

WHEREAS, throughout her legislative tenure, Commissioner Rogers successfully championed impactful legislation, including reforms to streamline private motor vehicle title transfers, improvements to substance abuse and mental health service delivery, protections for school districts donating surplus food to charities, and advocacy for in-state tuition opportunities for undocumented students; and

WHEREAS, her exemplary leadership and service have been recognized through countless honors and awards, including induction into the Broward County Women's Hall of Fame, the Florida League of Cities Legislative Appreciation Award, the Florida Association of Counties Champion Award, the Jamaican American Bar Association Legislative Award, and the prestigious Order of Distinction (Commander Rank) from the Government of Jamaica; and

WHEREAS, in November 2016 she served as Mayor until her election in November 29, 2022, when she was sworn in as Broward County Commissioner for District 9; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Rogers is an advocate for economic development, small business growth, international trade, and educational advancement, while actively supporting community organizations, scholarship initiatives, and charitable causes.

Now, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Michael J. Ryan, Mayor of the City of Sunrise, Florida, together with the City Commissioners do hereby proclaim March 10th, 2026, as **Hazelle P. Rogers Day** in the City of Sunrise, and encourage all to celebrate her extraordinary leadership and dedication to public service.



Witness My Hand and Official Seal of
The City of Sunrise, Florida

Michael J. Ryan, Mayor