## Proclamation

WHEREAS, by 1776 nearly 300,000 Irish nationals had emigrated to the American colonies and played a crucial role in America's War for Independence; and

WHEREAS, five signers of the Declaration of Independence were of Irish descent and three signers were Irish born; and

WHEREAS, the Irish first came to Spanish "La Florida" in the 1500's - first as missionaries and mercenary soldiers and then as planters, traders, businessmen, doctors, and administrators; and

WHEREAS, three of the Spanish Governors of "La Florida" were actually Irish military officers; and

WHEREAS, Andrew Jackson, whose family came from County Antrim, served as Florida's military governor following its acquisition by the United States; and

WHEREAS, Irish Americans, since America's inception, have provided and continue to provide leadership and service to this nation's political, business, and religious establishments; and

**WHEREAS**, it is fitting and proper to celebrate the rich cultural heritage and the many valuable contributions of Irish Americans.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Arlene R. Schwartz, Mayor of the City of Margate, do hereby proclaim the month of March 2025, as

## IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the City of Margate to be affixed this 5<sup>th</sup> day of March 2025.

ARLENE R. SCHWARTZ, MAYOR

Vice Mayor Antonio V. Arserio, Commissioner Anthony N. Caggiano, Commissioner Tommy Ruzzano, Commissioner Joanne Simone