

## CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER JIMMY PATRONIS STATE OF FLORIDA

## **PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, each year, Floridians face catastrophic events such as hurricanes, tornadoes, flooding, and other natural disasters, all of which carry the potential to cause serious damage – or even worse, total destruction – to private property and homes; and

WHEREAS, following disasters, stressed and strained homeowners are vulnerable to predatory practices from dishonest contractors fraudulently inflating repair or rebuilding costs; and

WHEREAS, predatory practices by nefarious contractors ultimately increase costs for consumers by driving up insurance premiums and forcing insurers to reevaluate risk; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that an effective public outreach campaign highlight the various types of contractor fraud schemes to help educate consumers on how to identify and avoid such schemes; and

WHEREAS, the National Insurance Crime Bureau encourages Floridians to get at least three written estimates, check contractor credentials, and work closely with insurers during the entire rebuilding process when hiring a contractor; and

WHEREAS, the National Insurance Crime Bureau, in collaboration with its local and state partners in Florida, including law enforcement, first responders, legislators, and state officials, are committed to educating Floridians about predatory practices by dishonest contractors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer and State Fire Marshal of the State of Florida does hereby recognize May 20th through May 24th, 2024, as

## CONTRACTOR FRAUD AWARENESS WEEK

and encourage the citizens of Florida to become familiar with contractor fraud and participate in the various programs focused on bringing awareness to contractor fraud.

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF** the Chief Financial Officer of the State of Florida has hereunto subscribed his name on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of May 2024.

JIMMY PATRONIS CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER STATE FIRE MARSHAL