

# PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in January 1836, the first Texas Navy, the official navy of the Republic of Texas, consisted of four hastily purchased and minimally equipped schooners: Invincible, Brutus, Independence, and Liberty; and

WHEREAS, under the command of Commodore Charles Edward Hawkins, the first Texas Navy helped win the Republic of Texas Independence by preventing a Mexican blockade off the Texas coast, seizing ships laden with war supplies destined for Mexico. The Texas Navy was able confiscate and supply much needed materials to the Texan forces; and

WHEREAS, by October 1837, all four ships had been lost at sea, sunk by the Mexican Navy, run aground, captured, or sold; and

WHEREAS, in 1839, Mexico's continued refusal to acknowledge the independence of the Republic of Texas, the Texas Congress acquired six new vessels to become the second Texas Navy; and

WHEREAS, Texas annexation incorporated The Republic of Texas into the United States and as a result, in 1846 the Texas Navy merged with the United States Navy; and

WHEREAS, the story of the hardship and savage fighting of those small fleets of battered ships and intrepid seamen was largely forgotten until the third Texas Navy was established as a commemorative organization by Governor Price Daniel in 1958; and

WHEREAS, in 1973, the 63rd Texas Legislature passed a resolution that ratified the Texas Navy as an official state organization, devoted to preserving the history of the three Navies of Texas; and

WHEREAS, and as directed by Texas Government Code Title 6, Subtitle B, Section 662.052 “(a) The third Saturday in September of each year is Texian Navy Day in remembrance of the Texian Navy. (b) Texian Navy Day shall be regularly observed by appropriate ceremonies and activities.”

NOW, THEREFORE, Brazoria County Commissioners Court does hereby proclaim September 21, 2024 as

## TEXIAN NAVY DAY

as we Commemorate, Celebrate, Educate, Honor and Support the Texas Men of Iron, Sailing in their Ships of Wood.

APPROVED this 10th day of September, 2024.

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Brazoria County Judge

L. M. “Matt” Sebesta, Jr.

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Commissioner, Precinct 1

Donald “Dude” Payne

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Commissioner, Precinct 2

Ryan Cade

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Commissioner, Precinct 3

Stacy L. Adams



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Commissioner, Precinct 4

David Linder