

**Presented to the  
Westminster Academy Girls' Basketball Team  
for Winning the Class 3A State Championship**

**WHEREAS**, on February 25, 2022, at the RP Funding Center in Lakeland, the Westminster Academy Girls' Basketball Team defeated Sarasota's Cardinal Mooney with a 44-41 victory to secure the Class 3A state championship title; and

**WHEREAS**, this is the first state championship the Westminster Academy Girls' basketball team has won since 1991; and

**WHEREAS**, Coach Shannon Wallhoff took over the program before the 2007-2008 season and since then the team had only made it as far as the regional finals; and

**WHEREAS**, the victory did not come easy as Aylana Mergilles, one of the team's top defensive players, suffered a leg injury in the semifinal game against FSU High. Lena Girardi, the team's leading scorer this season, fouled out of the game with two minutes and forty-five seconds left; and

**WHEREAS**, the team continued through the game with grit and determination and with the help of freshman Maddie Wallhoff, who started in place of Mergilles and scored 15 points, including three (3) three-point shots early in the fourth quarter and a free throw in the final seconds of the game to secure the lead; and

**WHEREAS**, this dream team, made up of players Claire Erickson, Taelynn Carey, Princess Kemp, Aylana Mergilles, Lena Girardi, Maddie Wallhoff, Abby Price, and Mia Kostelidis together with Coaches Shannon Wallhoff and Raquel Rosa, brought home the state championship title ending their season with 27 wins and 5 losses; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and City Commissioners congratulate the Westminster Academy Lions on their incredible season victory and wish the team and coaches continued success.

**NOW, THEREFORE, WE**, as City Commissioners of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, do hereby proclaim **March 15, 2022** as:

**Westminster Academy  
Girls' Basketball Team Day**

in the City of Fort Lauderdale in celebration of their successful season and championship title.

**DATED this**, 15<sup>th</sup> day of March 2022.

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**Mayor Dean J. Trantalis**

