

## PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the United States is celebrating the 9th anniversary of National Apprenticeship Week, a nationwide celebration of the vital role Registered Apprenticeships provide in rebuilding our economy, advancing racial and gender equity, and empowering underserved communities throughout the nation, including Harris County; and

WHEREAS, the Houston Gulf Coast Building and Construction Trades Council Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee and their partners manage the country's leading professional construction training program, offering its students the most comprehensive and diverse education in state-of-the-art training facilities; and

WHEREAS, apprenticeships are key in the career advancement of individuals by opening doors to professional and educational opportunities, higher income, hands-on training, one-one learning, and career-advancing credentials; and

WHEREAS, apprenticeship allows apprentices to earn while they learn and creates a pathway to good, quality jobs and well-paying careers in Harris County and across the nation; and

WHEREAS, Harris County businesses benefit from apprenticeship programs by showing greater productivity, higher staff retention rates, and reduced employment costs; and

WHEREAS, Harris County recognizes the role of Registered Apprenticeship in creating and expanding opportunities for the workforce that is inclusive of individuals who have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by persistent poverty and inequity; and

WHEREAS, apprenticeship provides a pathway for all qualified individuals, including women, youth, people of color, rural communities, justice-involved individuals, and individuals with disabilities, to become apprentices, move towards economic self-sufficiency while contributing to the US economy; and

WHEREAS, November 13–19, 2023, is designated as the 9th Annual National Apprenticeship Week and is recognized as a nationwide celebration where industry, labor, equity, workforce, education, and government leaders showcase the successes and value of apprenticeship programs for rebuilding our economy and advancing equity in our communities: now, therefore

I, Lina Hidalgo, Judge of Harris County, Texas hereby recognize the 9th Annual

## National Apprenticeship Week

from November 13th – 19th, 2023, and recognize the nationwide celebration where apprenticeship programs prepare individuals who will have a strong passion and love for their careers.

A COUNTY JUDGE A

In testimony whereof, I hereunto signed my name and caused the seal of Harris County, Texas, to be affixed.

Lina Hidalgo
County Judge