## YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP WEEK PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Youth Apprenticeship Week is celebrating its inaugural year of raising awareness of the vital role Youth Apprenticeship can play in creating great career opportunities by allowing apprentices age 16-24 earn while they learn and opening pathways to good, quality jobs and well-paying careers in technology; and

WHEREAS, Appteon, Inc., an 8(a) Small Disadvantaged Business that has been providing awardwinning technology solutions to the Federal Government for nearly 20 years, who also serves as a U.S. Department of Labor Registered Apprenticeship Industry Intermediary and a U.S. Department of Labor Apprenticeship Ambassador, recognizes the urgent need to prepare and maintain an inclusive, diverse and highly-skilled workforce that is capable of meeting the demands of the Information Technology/Cybersecurity sector; and

WHEREAS, Youth Registered Apprenticeship programs enable employers the tremendous opportunity to develop and train their future workforce while offering career seekers pathways to good, quality careers; and

WHEREAS, Appteon Inc. recognizes the role of Youth Apprenticeship in expanding opportunities in our workforce that are inclusive of individuals who have been historically underserved thus providing a path for all qualified individuals, including women, youth, people of color, rural communities, justice-involved individuals and individuals with disabilities, to become apprentices and contribute to America's technology industries; and

WHEREAS, Appteon, Inc. recognizes the pivotal role educators, school counselors, and educational institutions serve in not only bringing awareness of Youth Apprenticeship opportunities to students and partners, but also serving as training providers, sponsors, and intermediaries.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Debby Hopkins, Director of Workforce Initiatives, Appteon, Inc., call upon educators, industry partners in the field of Information Technology/Cybersecurity, and the broad workforce system to recognize the value of Youth Apprenticeship, and to promote industry awareness during the 1<sup>st</sup> annual event of Youth Apprenticeship Week May 5 – 11, 2024.

IN SUPPORT,

**V**55LEON

Debby Hopkins, PMP Director of Workforce Initiatives



