

## Proclamation THE EL DORADO COUNTY AFFILIATE OF THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS (NAMI)

## Recognizing EL DORADO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE Deputy Jeff Whitlock May 4, 2021

**WHEREAS**, mental health is essential to the overall health of every individual in our county nonetheless mental illness will affect nearly one in five adults and children in a given year and often law enforcement responds first to individuals in mental health crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, Deputy Whitlock consistently demonstrates law enforcement's best practices when addressing the needs of our county's mentally ill population; and

**WHEREAS,** Deputy Whitlock has established a multi-disciplinary, inclusive, and cooperative approach to law enforcement and mental health; and

**WHEREAS**, Deputy Whitlock's support and leadership with El Dorado County Sheriff's Office programs including the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT), CIT training, and the Psychiatric Emergency Response Team (PERT) serve as examples to law enforcement throughout the county; and

**WHEREAS**, Deputy Whitlock's personal commitment to accessibility and response is valued by the county's mental health communities and by NAMI El Dorado County; and

**WHEREAS,** Deputy Whitlock's honest and respectful communication, and positive community-oriented collaboration model the way to effective relationships between the El Dorado County Sheriff's Office and our county's mental health communities such that we can break down stigma and provide recovery-oriented mental health services throughout the county; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Whitlock's management skills foster teamwork and his personal style demonstrates humility.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Board of Directors of the El Dorado County affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) does hereby recognize Deputy Jeff Whitlock of the El Dorado County Sheriff's Office. Deputy Whitlock's leadership, understanding, and compassion are examples to both law enforcement and the mental health communities. This Proclamation is concurrent with the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors Proclamation establishing May 2021 as Mental Health Month. and calls upon all citizens, governmental agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, hospitals and schools in El Dorado County to increase public awareness of the importance of mental health, promote greater understanding and hope for those who live with mental illness to reduce stigma and discrimination, and pay tribute to all who devote their skill and expertise to the cause of better mental health for our citizens.

**Passed** unanimously by the Board of Directors of the El Dorado County Affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) at a special meeting of said Board, held the 6th day of April, 2021.

By,

Karis Holman, President, NAMI El Dorado County for the entire Board of Directors