

DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

*Proclamation*

**NATIOAL CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH | 2020**

- WHEREAS,** the Information Service and Technology recognizes that it has a vital role in identifying, protecting its citizens from, and responding to cybersecurity threats that may have significant impact to our individual and collective safety and privacy; and
- WHEREAS,** critical infrastructure is increasingly reliant on information systems and technology to support financial services, energy, telecommunications, transportation, utilities, health care, and emergency response systems; and
- WHEREAS,** cybersecurity education and awareness are crucial for everyone, including large corporations, small businesses, financial institutions, schools, government agencies, the home user, and anyone who connects to the internet; and
- WHEREAS,** monitoring your accounts, being conscientious of what you share online, keeping computer software up to date, creating unique passwords and changing them regularly, installing anti-virus programs and firewalls, and using mobile devices safely are ways you can protect yourself from phishing, viruses, malware, financial loss, and loss of sensitive data; and
- WHEREAS,** Greg Marrow, IS&T Director and his staff are dedicated to providing every individual and public and private organization in Durham County the resources necessary to ensure the understanding, implementation, and success of National Cybersecurity Awareness Month to help the citizens of Durham County stay safe online and connect with confidence; and
- WHEREAS,** the STOP. THINK. CONNECT.™ Campaign serves as the national cybersecurity public awareness campaign, implemented through a coalition of private companies, nonprofit, government organizations, and academic institutions working together to increase the public's understanding of cyber threats and empowering Americans to be safer and more secure online; and
- WHEREAS,** the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Workforce Framework is a free resource to help organizations (both large and small, public, and private) improve their cybersecurity practices through a practical approach to addressing the ever-evolving cybersecurity threats and challenges; and
- WHEREAS,** maintaining the security of cyberspace is a shared responsibility in which each of us has a critical role to play, and awareness of computer security essentials will improve the security of Information Service and Technology's information, infrastructure, and economy; and
- WHEREAS,** the Information Security Program was established in July 2017 to enhance and protect the Information Service and Technology's cybersecurity ecosystem; and
- WHEREAS,** the Federal Government of the United States of America, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency ([www.cisa.gov](http://www.cisa.gov)), the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (<https://www.cisecurity.org/ms-isac>), the National Association of State Chief Information Officers ([www.nascio.org](http://www.nascio.org)), and the National Cyber Security Alliance ([www.staysafeonline.org](http://www.staysafeonline.org)) all recognize October as National Cybersecurity Awareness Month; and all citizens are encouraged to visit these websites, and the STOP. THINK. CONNECT.™ Campaign website ([www.cisa.gov/stopthinkconnect](http://www.cisa.gov/stopthinkconnect) or [www.stopthinkconnect.org](http://www.stopthinkconnect.org)) to learn about cybersecurity to put that knowledge into practice in their homes, schools, workplaces, and businesses.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Wendy Jacobs, Chair of the Durham Board of County Commissioners and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim October 2020 as

**“NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH”**

in Durham County. We urge all residents to celebrate the vital role that technology plays in our community and how critically important it is to maintain cutting edge systems and infrastructure to protect against cyber threats at all levels.

This the 12<sup>th</sup> day of October 2020.

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Wendy Jacobs, Chair  
Durham Board of County Commissioners

