

*Office of the Mayor  
The City of Coral Gables*

*Proclamation*

**WHEREAS**, the residents of Coral Gables recognize the vital role that swimming and aquatic activities play in maintaining good physical mental health and enhancing the quality of life for all people; and

**WHEREAS**, the residents of Coral Gables understand the essential role that education regarding the topic of “Water Safety” plays in preventing drowning and recreational water-related injuries; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Coral Gables is aware of the contributions made by the recreational water industry, as represented by the Association of Pool & Spa Professionals, the National Recreation & Park Association, the World Waterpark Association, the American Red Cross and Jeff Ellis & Associates in developing safe swimming facilities, aquatic programs, home pools and spas, and related activities providing healthy places to recreate, learn and grow, build self-esteem, confidence and a sense of self-worth which contributes to the quality of life in our community; and

**WHEREAS**, the residents of Coral Gables recognize the ongoing efforts of the Venetian Pool Lifeguards and the Venetian Aquatic Club Volunteers who have dedicated 63 years to the prevention and elimination of drowning, and to further educate the public on pool and spa safety issues; and has taught over 600 swimming lessons last year to adults, and children of all ages to further water safety education in our community; and

**WHEREAS**, the residents of Coral Gables understand the vital importance of communicating “Water Safety” rules and programs to families and individuals of all ages, whether owners of private pools, users of public swimming facilities, or visitors to the City’s very own Venetian Pool; and

**WHEREAS**, the Venetian Pool and its Lifeguard Staff were awarded the prestigious Platinum International Aquatic Safety Award, presented to only the top ten percent in the world by Jeff Ellis & Associates for consistently exceeding their criteria in aquatic safety and offering the highest degree of swimmer protection; and

**WHEREAS**, the Venetian Pool Lifeguard Staff performed a total of 40 active water rescues last year, each of which resulted in the prevention of a possible drowning;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, VINCE LAGO**, as Mayor of the City of Coral Gables, along with the members of the City Commission, do hereby proclaim May 2022 as:

**“WATER SAFETY MONTH IN CORAL GABLES”**

**IN OBSERVANCE THEREOF**, I call upon the residents of the “City Beautiful” to join us in recognizing the popularity of swimming and other water-related recreational activities in South Florida, and the resulting need for on-going public education on safer water practices, thus observing water safety practices year-round.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto placed my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Coral Gables to be affixed on this thirty-first day of May, A.D., 2022.

*Vince Lago*  
*Mayor*

*Michael Mena*  
*Vice Mayor*

*Rhonda Anderson*  
*Commissioner*

*Jorge L. Fors, Jr.*  
*Commissioner*

*Kirk R. Menendez*  
*Commissioner*