OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
HONORABLE CAROL JEAN DOYLE
TOWN OF KEARNY - COUNTY OF HUDSON

Proclamation

PROCLAMATION TO PROUDLY RECOGNIZE AVA DE CASTRO LAWDANSKI ON EARNING THE GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD THE HIGHEST HONOR IN GIRL SCOUTING

WHEREAS, the said **AVA DE CASTRO LAWDANSKI**, member of the Girl Scouts has achieved the prestigious **Girl Scout Gold Award**, the highest honor of the Girl Scouts of America, attained by those Scouts who are active within their unit and who plan, develop, and provide leadership to others in an initiative or service program that benefits the community; and

WHEREAS, the said **AVA DE CASTRO LAWDANSKI** has achieved **Girl Scout Gold Award** and met the requirements of a minimum of 80 hours significant community service project by developing a comprehensive breast cancer education and awareness program that is already making a meaningful impact in her community. Ava has participated in scouting activities for many years and attained leadership positions throughout her years of community service. Ava also met the requirements and earned the Changemaker Award; and

WHEREAS, for her project, Ava focused on increasing awareness and education around early detection, prevention, and access to resources for patients, caregivers, and the broader community. Through a series of education sessions, a training video, outreach efforts, and a large-scale community health and wellness event, she provided critical information and support to those who need it most. To expand access to care, the health and wellness fair featured survivor stories and guest speakers. As part of her initiative, Ava created a community Breast Cancer Education Program that covered early detection methods, diagnosis, treatment, breast self-exams, and prevention strategies. She expanded the program to younger audiences by creating an opportunity for Girl Scouts to earn a Breast Cancer Awareness patch, helping introduce important topics in an age-appropriate and meaningful way.

WHEREAS, A key component of her project was securing a Mammography in Motion Mobile Unit, the first of its kind in Kearny. Through grant funding and partnerships, the mobile unit provided on-site mammography screenings to both insured and uninsured participants—helping remove barriers to early detection and care. To ensure her project would have a lasting impact, Ava established partnerships with organizations including University Hospital, the Rutgers Cancer Institute, and Minette's Angels Foundation. She also collaborated with local and state leaders, as well as medical and health educators, to continue delivering education, outreach, and resources beyond the completion of her project.

WHEREAS, Breast cancer remains the most frequently diagnosed cancer among women, with 1 in 8 women expected to receive a diagnosis in their lifetime. Ava's work directly addresses this critical issue by increasing awareness, expanding access to screenings, and empowering individuals with education and knowledge that can save lives.

WHEREAS, in achieving the **Girl Scout Gold Award**, **AVA DE CASTRO LAWDANSKI** has brought honor not only to herself but also to her family and troop and has lived up to the Girl Sout Oath by setting an example of leadership for all youth. The **Girl Scout Gold Award** challenges girls to identify issues they care about and take action to create sustainable solutions. Through her dedication, leadership, and commitment to service, **AVA DE CASTRO LAWDANSKI** has done just that—creating a program that will continue to educate, support, and save lives for years to come.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Town of Kearny, Hudson County, New Jersey recognize and congratulate **AVA DE CASTRO LAWDANSKI** as an outstanding citizen and commends her on fulfilling the significant requirements for achieving the prestigious **Girl Scout Gold Award**; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Proclamation, signed by **Carol Jean Doyle, Mayor of the Town of Kearny**, be presented to the said **AVA DE CASTRO LAWDANSKI** in honor of this occasion. I hereby approve the foregoing Proclamation on the **9th day of June 2026**.

CAROL JEAN DOYLE, MAYOR