

455 NE 5th Ave., Suite D-170, Delray Beach, FL 33483

June 2, 2025

## Dear Friends and Family,

Thirty years ago, Mark Gerretson, a native of Delray Beach, established the Delray Beach Jaycees' Fishing Tournament. The tournament committee included members from the Delray Beach Jaycees and "locals" with generational ties to Delray Beach. The fishing tournament raised funds for the Delray Citizens for Delray Police Kids N Cops Program, particularly for the Holiday Toy Drive.

Mark passed away unexpectedly in 2005. His friends and family continued his legacy by renaming the tournament to the Mark Gerretson Memorial Fishing Tournament ("MGMFT"). The MGMFT has donated over \$230,000 to the Delray Beach community, benefiting organizations such as the Delray Beach Chamber Education Fund, Achievement Center, Plumosa Foundation, Delray Citizens for Delray Police, Boys and Girls Club, Atlantic High Senior Scholarships, Cros Ministries, and Family Promise. The tournament has also supported Safety Patrol 5th Grade trips to Washington D.C., the Model UN Program in New York City, and provided school supplies for students at Pine Grove Elementary.

This year's tournament will be the final event for the MGMFT. We thank everyone who has supported us through donations or participation over the past 30 years. This has been a "local" tournament and the majority of our participants and boat entries are from Delray Beach.

The Committee is proud of the longevity of the tournament that began as a grassroots effort supporting local youth.

This year's donations and boat entries will be distributed back into the community for one final time.

We cordially invite you to attend the captain's meeting on Thursday, August 14, 2025, at Hurricane Bar & Lounge, located at 640 - 7 West Atlantic Avenue, from 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm. Activities will include raffle prizes, boat registration, and T-shirt sales. The weigh-in event will take place on Saturday, August 16, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at the Palm Beach Yacht Center, situated at 7848 South Federal Highway, Hypoluxo.

For details on donating or entering a boat in MGMFT, contact Tim Knapp at (561) 789-0814.

We appreciate your support throughout the years.

MGMFT Committee: The Gerretson Family, Barbara, Jerry, and Keith Kern, Bill (Whitey) Black, Kristin Francis, Jen Buce, Tim Knapp, Charlotte Hillman, and John Brewer. Past Committee members: Jeff Messer, Noel Bourque, and Gary "Falcon" Musial.