

Dear Friends,

This week, the people of our nation and our state turn aside from their hectic schedules to spend time with loved ones and family and count the many blessings because we as Americans have so much to be thankful for. God has indeed blessed our state and our nation far beyond compare, giving us unparalleled prosperity and opportunity.

For the freedoms we enjoy as Americans, we are grateful to both our nation's founding fathers and the many generations of leaders who have served our democracy so well. For protection and defense of our freedoms, we honor the brave men and women of our armed forces. For love and caring we share with those who daily surround us, we are thankful to family and to our great friends.

We are also most thankful to God for Florida's natural beauty, climate and protection from hurricanes. Prayers have been answered so that we are fortunate to celebrate this season in peace and security. Let us not forget our neighbors who may be less fortunate on this day of thanksgiving, and share from our abundant resources as we are able to do.

Please join me in expressing our gratitude to those working the jobs we so often take for granted -- the law enforcement officer, emergency medical staff, the school teacher, the airline pilot, the toll booth worker, the grocery bagger. These citizens, and so many more, help us celebrate our holidays and every day.

We sincerely ask for God's continued protection and blessings on our nation and our state. May our actions truly express our gratitude to Him and to each other.

God bless each and every one of you and the great state of Florida. Thank you.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charlie Coit". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.