



JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Notice Regarding Oak Tree at Jackson County Courthouse



Marianna, FL — Jackson County officials would like to inform the public that an oak tree located on the **northwest corner of the Jackson County Courthouse** near the front entrance and adjacent roadway has been evaluated by a certified arborist and determined to be in a condition that cannot be remedied or restored.

The arborist's professional assessment concluded that the structural integrity of the tree has declined to a point where it presents an increasing risk of failure. Due to its location near a primary entrance, walkways, roadway, and Courthouse facilities, the tree poses a potential hazard to property and public safety if left in place.

Based on this evaluation, the County is preparing for the tree's removal. While a specific removal date has not yet been scheduled, this notice is being shared in advance to keep the community informed.

Jackson County recognizes the historic character of the courthouse grounds and understands the importance that mature trees hold for many residents. **Trees on the courthouse grounds hold historical and community significance, and decisions regarding their care are approached with thoughtful consideration and respect.** The County carefully considers preservation, safety, and professional guidance when addressing tree health and risk management.

The decision regarding this particular tree follows an objective assessment focused solely on its current condition and the responsibility to maintain a safe public environment. As conversations continue regarding the courthouse grounds, the County remains committed to transparency and will include the community in ongoing discussions and updates related to the grounds, as well as any future modifications or improvements.

Updates regarding timing and logistics will be shared as plans are finalized.

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Jamey Westbrook