

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, human trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud or coercion for the purpose of forced labor or sexual servitude; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking is a 150 billion-dollar global criminal enterprise, as well as a civil and human rights violation. It is estimated over 50 million people are currently victims of human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, human traffickers' prey on victims by promising a life of hope and greater opportunity, while instead delivering only enslavement and the traffickers unjustifiably profiting from the labor and toil of their victims. Victims are forced through violence and intimidation, to work in brothels and factories, on farms and fishing vessels, in private homes and countless other industries. Human trafficking is a modern form of the oldest most barbaric type of exploitation; and

WHEREAS, Ormond Beach, is a vibrant city home to over 43,000 residents and host to over five million guests who have the right to hope, freedom, economic security, safety and the pursuit of happiness; and

WHEREAS, January is National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month. A time to re-commit to the eradication of this evil enslavement; a time to bring more awareness and education to this appalling reality and pledge to do all possible to end the horrific practice of human trafficking that plagues innocent victims world-wide; and

WHEREAS, Human Trafficking Awareness Day is observed on January 11 in municipalities across the Country in order to educate the public and raise awareness about human trafficking. In Ormond Beach, we reaffirm this city's commitment to creating a victim service and criminal justice response that assists human trafficking victims.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Partington, Mayor of the City of Ormond Beach, do hereby proclaim January 2023, as

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH

in the City of Ormond Beach and urge all residents, agencies and champions to support efforts and actions to end human trafficking.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Ormond Beach, Florida, to be affixed this 10th day of January in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Three.



Bill Partington
BILL PARTINGTON
Mayor