

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, “*We have an opportunity to make America a better nation,*” Dr. King said on the eve of his death. We have made great strides since the turbulent era of Dr. King’s movement, but his work and our journey remain unfinished. Only when our children are free to pursue their full measure of success—unhindered by the color of their skin, their gender, the faith in their heart, the people they love, or the fortune of their birth—will we have reached our destination; and

WHEREAS, Dr. King’s activism was rooted in the true patriotism that cherishes America’s ideals and strives to narrow the gap between those ideals and reality. He took his stand explaining, “because of my love for America and the sublime principles of liberty and equality on which she is founded,” he wanted “to transform the jangling discords of our Nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood.” The majesty of his message, the dignity of his bearing, and the righteousness of his cause are a lasting legacy. In a few short years he changed America for all time. He made it possible for our Nation to move closer to the ideals set forth in our Declaration of Independence: that all people are created equal and are endowed with inalienable rights that government has the duty to respect and protect (*Ronald Reagan, January 21, 1986*); and

WHEREAS, each year since the King Holiday and Service Act were signed into law, Americans have marked this observance by devoting the day to service projects in their community. By renovating schools, cleaning up neighborhoods, tutoring children, donating blood, organizing food drives, or reaching out in some other way to those in need, our citizens can work together to make this a day on, not a day off, and to make their own contributions to Dr. King’s legacy of services. Martin Luther King Jr., was not content to rest on past successes or to compromise his convictions. If he were here now, he would exhort us not to grow weary in doing good, but to reach out to one another in the spirit of reverence for freedom, justice and equality (*William J. Clinton, January 14, 2000*); and

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was recognized on November 2, 1983 by the United States Congress and the President of the United States in the enactment of legislation establishing the third Monday in January as a national holiday in celebration of Dr. King’s birthday beginning in 1986;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Partington, Mayor of the City of Ormond Beach, Florida, do hereby proclaim January 20, 2020, as a day to recognize

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., DAY

in the City of Ormond Beach and call upon all Ormond Beach residents to join with me to celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Day by paying tribute to the memory of Dr. King and his legacy of peaceful accomplishment on behalf of all citizens.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Ormond Beach, Florida, to be affixed this 20th day of January in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty.



BILL PARTINGTON
Mayor