

# 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 32-billion dollar a year global criminal enterprise and is a crime as well as a civil and human rights violation; and an estimated 25 million people are currently victims of human trafficking for both sex and labor; and

**WHEREAS**, human traffickers prey on their victims by promising a life of hope and greater opportunity, while delivering only enslavement. Instead of delivering people to better lives, traffickers unjustifiably profit from the labor and toil of their victims, who they force — through violence and intimidation — to work in brothels and factories, on farms and fishing vessels, in private homes, and in countless industries; and

**WHEREAS**, Ormond Beach, Florida, is a vibrant city home to over 42,800 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, we commit ourselves to eradicating the evil of enslavement. Human trafficking is a modern form of the oldest and most barbaric type of exploitation and we proclaim it has no place in the world, our great nation, or our city; and

**WHEREAS**, this month we do not simply reflect on this appalling reality. We also pledge to do all in our power to end the horrific practice of human trafficking that plagues innocent victims not only around the world, but in our nation and communities; and

**WHEREAS**, more awareness and education are crucial to eradicating human trafficking in our communities, state, and nation; 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 2021, as

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH

in the City of Ormond Beach and urge its' 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 5<sup>th</sup> day of January in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-One.

  
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**BILL PARTINGTON**  
Mayor