

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 40.3 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 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, and 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 2022, 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 4th day of January in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Two.



BILL PARTINGTON
Mayor