

❧ PROCLAMATION ❧

*Whereas, Child Abuse results in significant trauma to children, families and society as it causes serious illness and injury, impairment of physical, intellectual and emotional functioning and well-being or even death; and*

*Whereas, Children of St. Augustine deserve to live and grow in healthy, nurturing environments, free from threats of violence and harm; and*

*Whereas, Child Abuse prevention services reduces the cost society must bear in dealing with the results of child abuse; and*

*Whereas, Prevention of abuse requires neighborhoods and communities to be attentive to the problems of families and be willing to help when help is needed; and*

*Whereas, During the month of April, the City of St. Augustine public and private sector agencies, childcare professionals, child advocates and residents promote community involvement to reduce parental isolation and conduct awareness efforts to educate parents and prevent abuse; and*

*Whereas, All citizens of the City of St. Augustine are encouraged to work in a coordinated comprehensive manner that provides a continuum of services for children from birth through transition to adulthood and engage in activities that strengthen families and communities to provide the optimal environment for children to grow healthy and thrive;*

*Whereas, The City of St. Augustine and its multiple non-profit and for profit organizations representing many different children's issues are participating in activities to create a shared vision of commitment to its children and families.*

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT*** Proclaimed by the City Commission of the City of Saint Augustine, Florida that April 2008, be designated as ***CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH***

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of St. Augustine, Florida, to be affixed on this 14th day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand and eight, in the four hundred and forty-second year of the founding of St. Augustine, the Nation's Oldest City*

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*MAYOR Joseph L Boles, Jr.*