

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, drug courts provide focus and leadership for community wide anti-drug systems, bringing together criminal justice, treatment, education and other community partners in the fight against drug abuse and criminality; and

WHEREAS, more than 100 program evaluations and at least four experimental studies have yielded definitive evidence that drug courts are demonstratively effective and significantly improve substance-abuse treatment outcomes, substantially reduce crime, and produce greater cost benefits than other justice strategies; and

WHEREAS, the drug court movement has grown from the 12 original drug courts in 1994 to more than 1,600 operational drug courts today; and

WHEREAS, judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, substance abuse treatment and rehabilitation professionals, law enforcement and community supervision personnel, researchers and educators, national and community leaders and others dedicated to the movement have had a profound impact within their communities.

THEREFORE, the City Commission of the City of St. Augustine, in recognition of the successful work of the practitioners and participants in Drug Court programs, does hereby proclaim May, 2008, as "NATIONAL DRUG COURT MONTH" in the City of St. Augustine, and urges all citizens to join in recognizing the contributions of drug courts, and the success of drug court graduates this year.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of St. Augustine to be affixed this 12th day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand and eight and the four hundred and forty second year of the founding of St. Augustine, the Nation's Oldest City.

MAYOR Joseph L. Boles Jr.