

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, on the 8th day of September, in the year of our Lord fifteen hundred and sixty five, Pedro Menéndez de Aviles, by the act of claiming this land for the King of Spain, founded San Augustin, in La Florida, the oldest continuously occupied European settlement in the land to become the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, September 8, 2008, marks the Four Hundred and Forty Third Anniversary of the founding of Saint Augustine; and

WHEREAS, on 8 September, 1565, a solemn Mass was offered on these grounds by Father Francisco Lopez de Mendoza Grajales, thus founding the parish of Saint Augustine and establishing Christianity in these lands; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the events of that historic occasion be observed and re-created in the manner recorded four hundred and forty third years ago.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Commission of the City of Saint Augustine does hereby proclaim September 8th, 2008, as **FOUNDER'S DAY**, in commemoration of the 443rd Anniversary of the Founding of Saint Augustine, Our Nation's Oldest City.

AND FURTHER, in celebration of this 443rd Anniversary, we urge all our citizens to participate in the festivities and commemoration of this singular event.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal and Title of the "Most Loyal and Valorous City" bestowed by His Majesty King Philip V in 1715 - to be affixed hereon, this 27th day of August in the year of our Lord two thousand and eight.

Joseph L. Boles, Jr., MAYOR