

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, the City of St. Augustine, Florida is the oldest continuously occupied European settlement in the continental United States, a town whose historic character and economic welfare is defined by its Spanish Colonial-period buildings, narrow streets, scenic beauty, and archaeological sites, and

Whereas, the State of Florida has long recognized the importance of this unique assemblage of historic resources, and

Whereas, on June 19, 1959, the State of Florida and the City of St. Augustine formed an official partnership when Governor LeRoy Collins created the St. Augustine Historical Restoration and Preservation Commission, an alliance forged to provide long-term protection and preservation of the City's internationally significant Spanish Colonial heritage, and

Whereas, this alliance was built on the foundation of Historic St. Augustine, Inc., a partnership established in 1933 by St. Augustine Mayor Walter Fraser involving the City of St. Augustine, the State of Florida, the federal government, and private entities, established for the purpose of ensuring economic viability and revitalizing heritage tourism for St. Augustine, and

Whereas, St. Augustine as the Nation's Oldest City has emerged as one of the United State's most popular heritage tourism destinations with over five million people visiting the area annually, as well as one of the best cities in the U.S. in which to live.

*Now therefore, be it resolved, that the City Commission of **ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA**, celebrates on this day, June 22, 2009 the **50th ANNIVERSARY OF ITS PARTNERSHIP WITH THE STATE OF FLORIDA**, and honors the State of Florida for its long-term contribution and dedication to protecting and preserving the colonial city of St. Augustine and its unique history - in the past, present, and future.*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Saint Augustine to be affixed this 22nd day of June in the year of our Lord two thousand and nine and the four hundred and forty third year of the founding of Saint Augustine, the Nation's Oldest City.

Joe Boles, Mayor