

**❧ PROCLAMATION ❧**

*WHEREAS, the roots of AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH date back over a century; and*

*WHEREAS, Black historian Carter G. Woodson, who founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History in 1915, initiated Negro History Week in 1926 as a way to deal with misrepresentations of black history; and*

*WHEREAS, many people struggled for racial equality in 1963 and 1964 in St. Augustine; people from all walks of life, young and old, black and white, from St. Augustine and afar; and*

*WHEREAS, Negro History Week has grown into a worldwide celebration, becoming a full month celebration in the early 1970s, and being established as African American History Month in 1976; and*

*WHEREAS, this month, we recognize the courage and tenacity of so many hard-working Americans whose legacies are woven into the fabric of our Nation; and*

*WHEREAS, we are the heirs to the extraordinary progress of African Americans and their contributions to the arts, science, industry, business, education and society; and*

*WHEREAS, overcoming today's challenges will require the same dedication and sense of urgency that enabled past generations of African Americans to rise above the injustices of their time.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, by the City Commission of the City of St. Augustine, Florida, that the month of FEBRUARY 2010 be designated as NATIONAL AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH and call upon all the citizens of St. Augustine to observe this month.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City Saint Augustine, Florida, to be affixed on this 22<sup>nd</sup> Day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand and ten, and in the four hundred and forty fourth year of the founding of Saint Augustine, the Nation's Oldest City.*