

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Jack Williams, longtime St. Augustine resident and amateur historian passed away on January 7, 2011; and

WHEREAS, Jack Williams, early on during the 1960's had researched and explored wetland property located a short few miles north of St. Augustine, finally coming to believe he had located the site of Ft. Mose; and

WHEREAS, Jack Williams was known to many friends and acquaintances as an expert in Colonial Spanish history and antique weaponry, owning for many years a gun and weapons museum located at 62 Spanish Street in downtown St. Augustine; and

WHEREAS, Jack Williams, along with a student archaeologist spent long hours scouting the property he believed to be the site of Ft. Mose, finding broken bayonet points, gun flints and other artifacts that seemed to indicate a battle occurred on the site during the 1700's; and

WHEREAS, Jack Williams was responsible for bringing attention to the wetland property and spending years doing research to prove the site was indeed the location of Ft. Mose; and

WHEREAS, Jack Williams perseverance led to recognition of the Underground Railroad Network to Freedom, the Gullah-Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor and the naming of Ft. Mose State Park; and

WHEREAS, Jack Williams will be remembered for his dedication to history and preservation of historic sites.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Commission of the City of St. Augustine does hereby recognize the service and contributions made by **Jack Williams** and honors him for his dedication to historic preservation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of St. Augustine to be affixed this 24th day of January in the year of our Lord two thousand and eleven, the four hundred and forty fifth year of the founding of St. Augustine, the Nation's Oldest City.

Mayor Joseph L. Boles Jr.