

AN AGREEMENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF
SISTER CITIES RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN
THE CITY OF DUHOK, REPUBLIC OF IRAQ, KURDISTAN REGION
AND
THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA, USA.

The Sister City Program, administered by Sister Cities International, was originally initiated by the President of the United States of America in 1956 to encourage greater friendship and understanding between the United States and other nations through direct personal contact; and


The City of Gainesville, Florida enjoys a Sister City program under the auspices of the Sister City Program of Gainesville, Inc., a not-for-profit Florida corporation; and

In order to foster those goals the people of the City of Duhok and the City of Gainesville, in a gesture of friendship and goodwill, agree to collaborate for the mutual benefit of their communities by exploring education, economic, and cultural opportunities.

The City of Duhok and the City of Gainesville, sharing a common interest in economic development, healthcare, sustainable reconstruction, municipal cooperation and the desire to promote mutual understanding among our citizens, and in cooperation with the Sister City Program of Gainesville, Inc., a not-for-profit Florida corporation, do hereby proclaim themselves Sister Cities effective upon the execution of the agreement.

Signed on this ___ day of _____, 2006, in counterparts in the Arabic and English Languages, both texts being equally authentic.

Tamar R. Fatah
Governor of Duhok
Republic of Iraq Kurdistan Region



Pegeen Hanrahan
Mayor of Gainesville
City of Gainesville, Florida