

City of Gainesville, Florida

Office of Mayor Pegeen Hanrahan

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, on October 11, 2004, the City of Gainesville Commission endorsed a Business Appreciation Proclamation Program designed to call attention to the contributions of business to the City's overall well-being; and

WHEREAS, the criteria utilized to judge applicants includes community staying power, growth in number of employees, increase in sales, current and past financial performance, innovative product or service, response to adversity and community contributions; and

WHEREAS, the Business Appreciation Proclamation Program is administered by the Gainesville Area Chamber of Commerce Small Business Resource Center that provides the forum in which the City's quarterly Business Appreciation Proclamation Program is implemented; and

WHEREAS, Mirage Manufacturing located at 3001 NE 20th Way and its owner Mr. Ken Fickett, have exhibited the qualities underlying the criteria utilized for the implementation of the City's Business Appreciation Proclamation including: operating a successful business since 1971; growth in production from an average of 5 yachts in 2000 to planned production of 15 yachts in 2006 and 24 yachts in 2007; and with the increase in production, Mirage plans to increase its workforce from 32 to 100 employees; and

WHEREAS, Mirage works with the State of Florida Workforce Program to train current employees, the Alachua Career Center with on-the-job training for applicants with no previous experience, and for years has supported the Work Release Program, training and employing 6-10 Work Release inmates; and

WHEREAS, Mirage contributes year-round to several organizations, including the Children's Wish Foundation and the Leukemia Society; and

WHEREAS, on March 31, 2006, the Small Business Resource Center endorsed Mirage Manufacturing as the fifth business to be recognized by the City of Gainesville through the Business Appreciation Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Pegeen Hanrahan, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim April 24, 2006 as

Mirage Manufacturing Business Appreciation Day

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in recognizing Mirage Manufacturing for the role it plays in contributing to the overall well-being of our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 10th day of April, A.D., 2006.

Pegeen Hanrahan
Mayor