

# City of Gainesville, Florida

Office of Mayor Lauren Poe  
PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the purpose of White Cane Safety Month is to make the public sensitive to the white cane as a symbol of the independence of the blind and to promote public awareness of the blind as equal and productive citizens within the community; and

WHEREAS, it is at this time that we remind all citizens that persons carrying a white cane or using a dog guide are legally blind and, under the law, have equal rights to housing; to all places to which the public is invited including, but not limited to, places of lodging, amusement, and recreation; to all modes of public transportation; and to all the streets and byways of our communities; and

WHEREAS, it is at this time that we remind motorists that the law requires that drivers exercise appropriate care when approaching blind persons; and

WHEREAS, it is at this time that we remind employers that competent blind persons can be and are employed within the broad spectrum of competitive labor and within the professions.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lauren Poe, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim October, 2018 as

## *White Cane Safety Month*

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in commending the National Federation of the Blind for its dedicated service in assisting blinded persons in adjustment and orientation, including referrals to appropriate agencies, public education, employment opportunities, legal assistance, white canes and other special aides and appliances to the blind at or below cost, scholarships and consultations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 5<sup>th</sup> day of September, A.D., 2018.



Lauren Poe  
Mayor