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City of Gainesville, Florida

Office of Mayor Paula M. DeLaney

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, year 2000 marks the twentieth anniversary of the commemoration of National Crime Victims' Rights Week; and

WHEREAS, the victims' rights discipline in America has, for nearly three decades, dared to dream of a nation that is free from violence and an America where crime victims are consistently provided supportive services to help them cope with the trauma of crime and victimization; and

WHEREAS, while the rate of most crimes continues to decrease, U.S. residents still experience nearly 31 million criminal victimizations, including 8.1 million violent crimes annually; and

WHEREAS, over 30,000 federal and state laws have been passed that define and protect the rights of crime victims; 32 states have passed constitutional amendments that afford victims important participatory rights throughout the criminal and juvenile justice systems; and a federal constitutional amendment is currently pending in the United States Congress; and

WHEREAS, important partnerships have been formed among criminal and juvenile justice agencies, allied professionals, and victim services to ensure that crime victims are treated with dignity and respect; and

WHEREAS, our nation's commitment to victim assistance, crime prevention, and public safety has resulted in countless individuals and collaborative initiatives and truly do our community justice; and

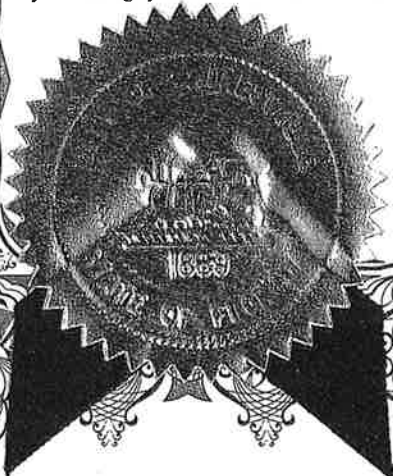
WHEREAS, the new millennium affords us the opportunity to continue to dare to dream of a nation where liberty and justice for all includes each and every person who has been touched by crime,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Paula M. DeLaney, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim April 9-15, 2000 as

CRIME VICTIMS WEEK

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in ensuring that our individual and collective efforts reflect the dreams that we dare to have of a nation where no crime victim goes unserved, and every crime victim is afforded rights and services, and fair treatment by the justice system and society.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 28th day of February, A.D., 2000.



Paula M. DeLaney
Paula M. DeLaney
Mayor