

File No. 001333

May 14, 2001

# City of Gainesville, Florida

Office of Mayor Paula M. DeLaney

## PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the open exchange of public discourse is essential to the democratic system of government; and

WHEREAS, as a cornerstone of democracy Americans have observed certain rules of behavior generally known as civility; and

WHEREAS, civility, derived from the Latin words "civitas" meaning city and "civis" meaning citizen, is behavior worthy of citizens living in a community or in common with others; and

WHEREAS, displays of anger, rudeness, ridicule, impatience, and a lack of respect and personal attacks detract from the open exchange of ideas, prevent fair discussion of the issues, and can discourage individuals from participation in government; and

WHEREAS, civility can assist in reaching consensus on diverse issues and allow for mutually respectful ongoing relationships; and

WHEREAS, civility can uplift our daily life and make it more pleasant to live in an organized society; and

WHEREAS, the City, County and Local Government Law Section of The Florida Bar urges the adoption of a pledge of civility by all citizens in the State of Florida.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Paula M. DeLaney, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim May 2001 as

## CIVILITY MONTH

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in exercising civility toward each other.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this fourth day of May, A.D., 2001.



*Paula M. DeLaney*  
Paula M. DeLaney  
Mayor