

WHEREAS, the Alachua County Council of the Blind is a charitable, consumer advocacy organization for people who are blind and visually impaired; and

WHEREAS, the use of a white cane with a red tip or a guide dog is universally recognized as mobility aids for the blind and visually impaired; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida Statues 752.52 Section 2 and 752.53 Section 3, also known as "THE WHITE CANE LAW", requires that vehicles STOP when an individual guided by a guide dog or carrying a white cane with a red tip is crossing a public street or highway; and

WHEREAS, October of each year has been nationally designated as "WHITE CANE SAFETY MONTH"; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the members of the Alachua County Council of the Blind to make the public aware of the "WHITE CANE LAW" and the necessity of its observance to assure the safety of individuals who are blind or visually impaired on Gainesville's public streets and highways.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Pegeen Hanrahan, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim October 2007 as

White Cane Safety Month

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in assuring the safety of individuals who are blind or visually impaired.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 8th day of October, A.D., 2007.



Pegeen Hanrahan Rayar