

City of Gainesville, Florida

Office of Mayor Pegeen Hanrahan

#050480

10/10/05

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, traffic crashes cause more than 42,000 fatalities each year and are the leading cause of death for people ages 6 to 33; and

WHEREAS, traffic crashes throughout Florida caused 3,136 deaths in 2002, and 3,169 fatalities in 2003, and 3,244 deaths in 2004; and

WHEREAS, traffic crashes here in Alachua County caused 35 fatalities in 2002; 29 deaths in 2003; 50 died in 2004 and through August 30, 2005 we have lost 28 lives due to traffic crashes, and poor road conditions and obsolete designs contribute to more than 15,000 highway deaths annually; and

WHEREAS, deaths and injuries on U.S. highways cost society over \$150 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, safer driving behaviors such as the use of seat belts, not drinking and driving and obeying traffic laws would dramatically reduce the number of traffic related injuries and deaths; and

WHEREAS, the use of cost-effective roadway safety improvements such as all-weather signing and markings, traffic signals, skid resistant pavements and removal of roadside hazards could also greatly reduce the number of traffic crashes; and

WHEREAS, cooperation between Federal, State, and local governments, private entities, and associations is essential to increasing highway safety.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Pegeen Hanrahan, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim October 10, 2005 as

Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in exhibiting patience in traffic congestion, taking breaks during long highway drives, and being more conscientious about vehicle, bicycle and pedestrian safety.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 26th day of September, A.D., 2005.



Chuck Chestnut
Chuck Chestnut, MD
Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem