

PROCLAMATION

7 EXHIBIT NO. 1  
12-10-02

*WHEREAS, the people of the City of Alexandria expect and deserve the finest fire service, emergency medical service, and code enforcement available; and*

*WHEREAS, the men and women of the Alexandria Fire Department are dedicated to providing quality services to those who visit, live and work in Alexandria; and*

*WHEREAS, strong leadership is vital to guiding the employees of the Alexandria Fire Department to fulfilling the goals they have set, including:*

- *enhancing the quality of life through prevention, education and community involvement;*
- *delivering responsive and caring emergency services;*
- *mitigating emergencies and disasters;*
- *preventing the loss of life and protecting property;*
- *enforcing applicable codes and ordinances; and*

*WHEREAS, Thomas M. Hawkins, has served as Chief of the Alexandria Fire Department since June 28, 1993; and*

*WHEREAS, Chief Hawkins has maintained a constant awareness of and been proactive in implementing new outreach and safety programs for the people of Alexandria and the Northern Virginia region; and*

*WHEREAS, these programs include:*

- *the Marine Operations Team that handles emergencies on Alexandria's waterfront and interior waterways;*
- *the Bike Medic Operations program that reduces the time needed to reach sick and injured persons in large crowds;*
- *the Alexandria Fire Department Citizen Academy to teach residents and employees of Alexandria about the department's firefighting and emergency medical responsibilities and provide them with hands-on practical training;*
- *the creation of the Be Safe Coalition which is committed to teaching safety to at-risk populations in Alexandria through a public-private coalition of committed agencies and businesses;*
- *the Leadership Education and Development program for training all Fire Department supervisors and officers;*
- *the Northern Virginia Hazardous Materials Response Team which combined personnel and resources from Alexandria and Arlington County Fire Departments to serve as a regional team for the Commonwealth of Virginia;*
- *the establishment of the City's fifth emergency medical services unit; and*

*WHEREAS, Chief Hawkins has been a leader in the City's emergency preparedness efforts overseeing the City's response to the tragic September 11 events at the Pentagon and working to ensure that Alexandria is prepared to respond to all emergencies; and*

*WHEREAS, Chief Hawkins has shown his commitment to the Alexandria community as both a citizen and an employee concerned with giving his best to Alexandria; and*

*WHEREAS, Chief Hawkins will retire on January 1, 2003, following nine-and-a-half years as Chief of the Alexandria Fire Department;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, KERRY J. DONLEY, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim the gratitude of the Council and the people of the City of Alexandria to THOMAS M. HAWKINS as a loyal and trusted public servant and wish him all the benefits deriving from a life well-lived as he enters his retirement years.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 10<sup>th</sup> day of December 2002.*

**KERRY J. DONLEY**      **MAYOR**  
On behalf of the City Council  
of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST:

Beverly I. Jett, CMC City Clerk