

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, "Constitution Week" is traditionally observed in the United States from September 17 through September 23 to commemorate the significance of the United States Constitution in preserving the individual freedoms, liberties, and common welfare of the people who live in this country; and

WHEREAS, in addition to commemorating the signing of the Constitution, the Congress, designated September 17 as "Citizenship Day"; and

WHEREAS, for Citizenship Day, various civic and government groups across the country honor and celebrate the privileges and responsibilities of US citizenship and honor naturalized citizens; and

WHEREAS, Alexandria residents and City employees who have become citizens have met all the requirements for naturalization, which include the ability to read, write and speak English; knowledge and understanding of U.S. history and government; good moral character; and adherence to the principles of the U.S. Constitution; and

WHEREAS, on this day we welcome our residents to their new citizenship in the United States and congratulate them on the personal achievement that becoming a citizen represents; and

WHEREAS, as United States Citizens, we are asked to participate in the political process by registering to vote in elections, serve on a jury when called and participate in the activities of local government.

NOW, THEREFORE, I , WILLIAM D. EUILLE, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim September 23, as

"ALEXANDRIA'S CITIZENSHIP DAY"

and urge all naturalized citizens to reflect on the many benefits of our Federal Constitution and on the rights and responsibilities of American Citizenship. I further commend each new citizen here tonight for your courage and commitment to the ideals that make this a great nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 23rd day of September 2003.

WILLIAM D. EUILLE MAYOR
On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST:

Jacqueline M. Henderson, CMC City Clerk