PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria and its residents have consistently supported the human rights of all people and are committed to the furtherance of human rights on a local, national, and international level; and

WHEREAS, this year, as Rosa Parks lay in state at the U. S. Capitol, the nation honored a woman, whose courage in refusing to give up her seat on the bus in December 1955, gave many the courage to stand up for civil rights, and awakened our collective conscience; and

WHEREAS, the awakened conscience of the City led to the passage in 1975 of an ordinance intended to assure that every person in the City is accorded equality of opportunity in every aspect of City life, without regard to race, color, sex, religion, ancestry, national origin, marital status, familial status, age, sexual orientation or disability; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria recognizes this as the 57th anniversary of the United Nations' Universal Declaration announcing the first international Human Rights Month; and

WHEREAS, the month of December is Human Rights Month, and December 10 marks Human Rights Day, which recognizes the basic human rights and fundamental freedoms of all people and is celebrated throughout the world;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM D. EUILLE, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim December 2005 as:

"HUMAN RIGHTS MONTH"

in the City of Alexandria, and reaffirm the commitment of the City of Alexandria to the ideals embodied in the Human Rights Ordinance, in this, the thirtieth year since its enactment.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 13th day of December 2005.

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

ATTEST:

Jacqueline M. Henderson, CMC City Clerk