

EXHIBIT NO. 1  
**PROCLAMATION**

4a  
5-12-04

*WHEREAS, equality of opportunity was the founding promise of our nation; and*

*WHEREAS, every generation of our people has struggled to realize what was proclaimed by the founders to be a self-evident truth; and*

*WHEREAS, May 17, 2004 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the landmark United States Supreme Court decision in Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas, a monumental legal decision that declared legalized segregation and the doctrine of separate-but-equal unconstitutional; and*

*WHEREAS, this landmark decision was won through the legal genius and hard fought efforts of freedom fighters such as Thurgood Marshall, Charles Hamilton Houston, Constance Baker Motley, Jack Greenberg, Samuel Tucker and Oliver Hill, and through the efforts of less celebrated but equally committed individuals; and*

*WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria, not unlike other cities across the country, once betrayed the ideals of the Constitution by enhancing laws that placed one race above another and regulated the children of one race to separate and inferior schools; and*

*WHEREAS, in 1959 Alexandria began the slow, challenging and difficult process of integrating its schools; and*

*WHEREAS, in response to massive resistance to integration from states and localities federal courts finally enforced the Brown decision throughout the South in early 1971, requiring extensive changes in Virginia, and in Alexandria, and caused our City to confront the contradiction between its promise and its practice; and*

*WHEREAS, at T.C. Williams High School, despite community opposition, students and coaches of different races joined together on the football field to win the 1971 State Championship and their story - "Remember the Titans" - has inspired our city and nation; and*

*WHEREAS, T.C. Williams High School, once segregated, is now recognized as one of the most ethnically diverse high schools in the nation, educating students of different races from 92 countries, who speak 66 languages, and a full 80% of whom go on to post-secondary education; and*

*WHEREAS, on this 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Brown decision, we celebrate this victory for equality, yet recognize that Brown, as a monumental decision as it was, was neither the beginning nor the end of the struggle for equality but rather represents an inspiring moment in our collective history when the greatness of our national democracy and of our people was revealed.*

*NOW THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM D. EUILLE, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby recognize May 17, 2004, as:*

**"THE 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE LANDMARK BROWN  
VS. THE BOARD OF EDUCATION"**

*HONORING THE LEGACY of the Supreme Court decision in Brown and reaffirm the commitment of the City of Alexandria to equality of opportunity.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 12<sup>th</sup> day of May 2004.*

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

ATTEST:

Jacqueline M. Henderson, CMC    City Clerk