

**PROCLAMATION**

*WHEREAS, February 6 - 12, 2005, is "National Consumer Protection Week;" and*  
*WHEREAS, the theme of this year's National Consumer Protection Week is "Identity Theft;" and*

*WHEREAS, identity theft has become a growing and serious problem for many Americans; and*

*WHEREAS, everyday transactions reveal bits of personal information including addresses, phone numbers, Social Security numbers bank and credit card account numbers which may be taken and used without a person's knowledge to commit fraud or theft; and*

*WHEREAS, the magnitude of the problem has increased with the advent of "phishing" whereby scam artists use the telephone and internet to proactively capture personal, financial and identification information, causing victims of identity theft to spend their time and resources repairing the damage to their credit and financial profiles; and*

*WHEREAS, identity theft can have a devastating effect on a person's life including denial of job opportunities, refusal of loans for education, housing or cars, or arrests for crimes they didn't commit; and*

*WHEREAS, the Alexandria Consumer Affairs Commission, in light of the theme of this year's National Consumer Protection Week and the troubling effects that identity theft can have on the citizens of Alexandria, seeks to minimize the risk of identity theft by furthering the awareness and understanding of identity theft and the means by which consumers can protect their personal information through newspaper articles, Consumer Alerts and information outreach programs;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM D. EUILLE, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim the week of February 6 - 12, 2005 as:*

**"NATIONAL CONSUMER PROTECTION WEEK"**

*in the City of Alexandria.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 25<sup>th</sup> day of January 2005.*

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

*ATTEST:*

*Jacqueline M. Henderson, CMC      City Clerk*