EXHIBIT NO. 1

5
11-9-04

# *PROCLAMATION*

***WHEREAS**, as of June 30, 2002 over 8,000 children in the Commonwealth of Virginia have been removed from their homes because they were abused or neglected by their parents or guardians, are in foster care and are unable to return to live with their parents; and*

***WHEREAS**, many of these children are eligible and available for adoption by loving and caring adults in communities like Alexandria; and*

***WHEREAS**, November 2004 has been established as "National Adoption Month" in the United States and in the Commonwealth of Virginia; and*

***WHEREAS**, communities across the United States will celebrate "National Adoption Saturday" when families will be brought together by final court proceedings attended by judges, court personnel, lawyers, social workers, and the adopting families and friends; and*

***WHEREAS**, on November 20 the Alexandria Department of Human Services, the Alexandria Circuit Court, the Alexandria Model Court Project, the Alexandria CASA Program, and the Office of the Sheriff of the City of Alexandria will observe "Adoption Saturday" in Alexandria to celebrate the adoption of several of Alexandria's children from foster care; and*

***WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Alexandria desires to bring to the attention of the citizens of Alexandria the importance of adoption in our community and our society, and the need to find caring and loving homes for children whose biological families are unable to raise them;*

***NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM D. EUILLE**, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby call upon the citizens of the City to join with all of America in observing November as:*

***"NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH"***

*and in celebrating November 20 as **"Adoption Saturday in Alexandria"** and to acknowledge the valuable contributions of the Alexandria Department of Human Services' Division of Social Services, the Alexandria Circuit Court, the Alexandria Model Court Project, the Alexandria CASA Program, and the Office of Sheriff of the City of Alexandria on behalf of children and families in this community.*

***IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 9th day of November 2004.*

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

*ATTEST:*

*Jacqueline M. Henderson, CMC City Clerk*