

**PROCLAMATION**

*WHEREAS, The City of Alexandria is one of Virginia's most diverse cities and home to asylees and refugees from around the world; and*

*WHEREAS, on December 4, 2000, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution naming June 20, 2001 World Refugee Day, a day to remember the plight of refugees around the world and to recognize the contributions of refugees in our communities; and*

*WHEREAS, on this seventh anniversary, with the theme "Protecting Refugees: Rebuilding Lives in Safety and Dignity," we advocate, in order to draw the public's attention to the millions of refugees worldwide who do not leave their homes and villages willingly. They are forced to do so by conflict or fear of persecution; and*

*WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria, working with the Virginia Office of Newcomer Services, has served more than 550 refugees and their families in the City's 25 year participation in the Virginia Refugee Resettlement Program; and*

*WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria respects the richness of their cultures and the valuable contributions made to the City by refugees;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM D. EUILLE, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim June 20, 2008, as:*

**"WORLD REFUGEE DAY"**

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 10<sup>th</sup> day of June 2008.*

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

ATTEST:

Jacqueline M. Henderson, CMC City Clerk