## IN RECOGNITION OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS DAY

## **JANUARY 11, 2017**

WHEREAS: HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS MODERN-DAY SLAVERY, AND IS THE ILLEGAL TRADE IN HUMAN BEINGS THROUGH RECRUITMENT OR ABDUCTION, BY MEANS OF FORCE, FRAUD, OR COERCION FOR THE

PURPOSES OF FORCED LABOR, DEBT BONDAGE, OR SEXUAL EXPLOITATION; AND

WHEREAS: HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS A BORDERLESS CRIME WHICH TARGETS MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN,

BOTH U.S. CITIZENS AND FOREIGN NATIONALS, ISOLATING THEM FROM SOCIETY AND

SUPPORTIVE NETWORKS, AND EXPLOITING THEM FOR PERSONAL AND MONETARY GAIN; AND

WHEREAS: HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS A CRIME THAT IS IN DIRECT OPPOSITION TO THE FUNDAMENTAL

PRINCIPLES OF LIBERTY AND HUMAN RIGHTS UPON WHICH OUR NATION WAS FOUNDED: AND

WHEREAS: ONE HALF OF ALL VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING ARE CHILDREN, AND ALL MINORS IN THE

SEX TRADE ARE VICTIMS; AND

WHEREAS: HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS THE FASTEST GROWING CRIMINAL ENTERPRISE IN THE WORLD TODAY,

AND IS SECOND ONLY TO THE INTERNATIONAL ILLICIT DRUG TRADE; AND

WHEREAS: SOUTHEAST FLORIDA IS A MAJOR HUB FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING, AND FLORIDA CONTINUES TO

RANK THIRD IN THE NATION IN THE NUMBER OF CALLS TO THE NATIONAL HUMAN

TRAFFICKING HOTLINE; AND

WHEREAS: ACCORDING TO THE 2016 REPORT BY THE STATEWIDE COUNCIL ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING,

SOUTH FLORIDA LEADS THE STATE IN THE COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN

CATEGORY OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING CASES; AND

WHEREAS: THE PUBLIC NEEDS TO BE AWARE THAT SLAVERY CAN BE HAPPENING RIGHT NEXT DOOR, AND

MORE PEOPLE ARE NOW ENSLAVED WORLDWIDE THAN HAVE BEEN AT ANY OTHER POINT IN

**HUMAN HISTORY; AND** 

WHEREAS: ON FEBRUARY 1, 1865, PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN SIGNED THE 13<sup>TH</sup> AMENDMENT TO THE

UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION, AND ONCE RATIFIED IT OFFICIALLY OUTLAWED SLAVERY AND

INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE; AND

WHEREAS: THE CITY OF HOLLYWOOD STANDS COMMITTED TO PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS AND

INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM BY ELIMINATING HUMAN TRAFFICKING THROUGH CONTINUED

PROSECUTION, EDUCATION AND AWARENESS; NOW

THEREFORE: JOSH LEVY, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA, AND THE HOLLYWOOD CITY

COMMISSION, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM JANUARY 11, 2017, AS:

## **HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS DAY**

IN HOLLYWOOD, AND ENCOURAGE ALL RESIDENTS TO SUPPORT EFFORTS TO RAISE AWARENESS OF AND OPPOSITION TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

SIGNED THIS 11th DAY OF JANUARY 2017, AT HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA

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MAYOR JOSH LEVY
VICE MAYOR TRACI L. CALLARI
COMMISSIONER DEBRA CASE
COMMISSIONER PETER D. HERNANDEZ
COMMISSIONER RICHARD S. BLATTNER
COMMISSIONER KEVIN D. BIEDERMAN
COMMISSIONER LINDA SHERWOOD