



PROCLAMATION

NATIONAL SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH

WHEREAS, human trafficking is a form of modern day slavery. It is an assault on human dignity and we must actively work to prevent this barbaric exploitation of innocent victims; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking affects people worldwide and occurs when a person is recruited, harbored, obtained, or exported through force, fraud, or coercion for the purposes of sexual exploitation, forced labor, involuntary servitude, debt bondage and other methods of slavery; and

WHEREAS, human traffickers target 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, these crimes often remain hidden because victims are reluctant to seek help for a variety of reasons, including language barriers, fear of traffickers and law enforcement and lack of trust; and

WHEREAS, all Americans are morally obligated to confront and defeat the abhorrent practice of human trafficking and can help in this effort by recognizing key indicators that can potentially save a life. Public awareness and education are critical, especially for those most likely to encounter perpetrators of enslavement and their victims, such as healthcare professionals, law enforcement officers, social services providers, and educators; and

WHEREAS, as a Nation we cherish and uphold the notion that all people are created with inherent dignity and entitled to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Therefore, we are committed to protecting the vulnerable and ending human trafficking through continued prevention, prosecution, education and awareness.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Commission of the City of North Lauderdale, Florida hereby proclaims January, 2020 as

NATIONAL SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH

and encourages the citizens of the City of North Lauderdale to support awareness of this crime.



Dated this 14th day of January, 2020

MAYOR ANA M. ZIADE