

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Gwin Elementary School celebrated international Day on January 27, 2012, promoting the portion of Gwin's Mission Statement that cultural diversity and individualism enhance our environment, doing honor to the 37 different nations representing 37 ethnicities of students at Gwin Elementary School;

WHEREAS, Gwin Elementary School invited Mayor Ivey to speak at the International Day Celebration;

WHEREAS, the City of Hoover has been blessed with a vibrancy and beauty that is the envy of many municipalities throughout the nation;

WHEREAS, the City has attracted visitors from around the world, many of whom have determined to remain and to become members of our community;

WHEREAS, recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the City's various religious, ethnic and cultural communities is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace;

WHEREAS, disregard and contempt for human rights in the world have resulted in acts which have outraged the conscience of mankind, and the advent of a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want has been proclaimed as the highest aspiration of the common people;

WHEREAS, it is essential, that human rights should be guaranteed and protected by the rule of law;

WHEREAS, it is essential to promote the development of amiable relations among the City's diverse communities;

WHEREAS, those living in the City of Hoover have reaffirmed their faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human being and in the equal rights of men and women, and have determined to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom;

WHEREAS, the City of Hoover should strive to achieve, in co-operation with Jefferson and Shelby Counties and with the State of Alabama, the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

WHEREAS, a common understanding of these rights and freedoms is of the greatest importance for the full realization of this pledge;

NOW THEREFORE the Mayor and City Council of the City of Hoover, Alabama proclaim this affirmation of rights as a common standard of achievement for all who live, work, pray and strive to raise their children, to the

end that every individual and every organ of society, shall strive to promote respect for these rights and freedoms and to secure their effective recognition and observance, among all of our communities:

1. All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of respect and brotherhood.

2. All people are entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Proclamation, without distinction of any kind, such as race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, property, birth or that of their parent(s).

3. All people have the right to life, liberty and security of person and property. Foreigners who are, or may hereafter become, bona fide residents of this City, shall enjoy the same rights in respect to the possession, enjoyment, and inheritance of property, as native born citizens. Article I, Section 34, Alabama Constitution of 1901.

4. All people have the right to recognition everywhere as a person before the law.

5. All people are equal before the law and are entitled without discrimination to equal protection of the law, irrespective of race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, property, disability, or birth or that of their parent(s).

6. No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.

7. All people are entitled in full equality to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal as to any criminal charge against that person.

8. No one should be subjected to arbitrary interference with one's privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon one's honor and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.

9. Men and women of full age, without any limitation due to race, color, nationality, ethnicity or religion, have the right to marry and to found a family. The family is the natural and fundamental unit of society and is entitled to recognition and protection by that society and this City.

10. Everyone has the right to own property alone as well as in association with others. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of one's property.

11. All persons have the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change one's religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to

manifest one's religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.

12. The marginalization of any population pursuant to official policy, practice or procedure is contrary to the interests of the citizens of the City of Hoover. This City is not a sanctuary for undocumented immigrants of any nationality; neither is it a City that will tolerate any deprivation of rights, privileges or immunities, nor life, liberty or property, without due process of law nor the denial of the equal protection of the laws solely on account of any person being an alien, or on account of any person's color or race. (18 U.S.C. §242)

13. All people have the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association in conformity with valid promulgations of the City.

14. All people have the right freely to participate in the cultural life of the community and to enjoy the arts and recreation available within the City.

15. Ethnic or racial profiling is not allowed because it can send a dehumanizing message that people are judged by the color of their skin or their ethnicity and harms the City's criminal justice system by eviscerating the trust that is necessary if law enforcement is effectively to protect our communities. Recognition of the diversity of the community is of paramount importance in preventing the isolation and alienation of persons that may give rise to gang membership or other illicit associations of concern to municipal law enforcement.

16. All residents shall enjoy the freedom of contract and association, which shall not be abridged by the City except as may be required by law.

17. The City encourages volunteers and non-governmental organizations to ameliorate or remove linguistic impediments to the full exercise of rights herein affirmed, recognizing that such will improve the efficient functioning of government and society.

18. All residents have the duty and responsibility to comply with the laws of the State of Alabama and the ordinances and promulgations of the City of Hoover. Other duties and responsibilities attend the free exercise of the rights herein reaffirmed. In order to facilitate the performance by all residents of their respective duties and responsibilities, freedom from fear or reprisal is essential. All residents are encouraged to participate in the civic and governmental affairs of the City of Hoover without fear of reprisal.

19. All residents are entitled to the protection of the City's police, fire, housing, health, utilities and building departments and to unfettered access to the Municipal Court of the City of Hoover.

20. The undersigned recognize and understand that Federal and State law may operate to preempt or supersede one or more of the foregoing provisions, and in such case the City acknowledges and shall conduct itself in accordance therewith.

APPROVED this the 20th day of February, 2012.