

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS: Every 40 seconds, a child is reported missing or abducted in this country, a fact that translates to more than 2,000 children per day and 800,000 per year; and

WHEREAS: According to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, one in five girls and one in ten boys is sexually exploited before reaching adulthood; and

WHEREAS: There are approximately 58,000 non-family-related, child abductions a year, according to a 2002 U.S. Department of Justice study; and

WHEREAS: There are more than 600,000 registered sex offenders in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS: Internet technology is abused by sex offenders as a tool to target and prey on children; and

WHEREAS: Because children are being targeted by online predators, their safety should always be a priority when addressing Internet technologies; and

WHEREAS: Families in the Jacksonville community need to be aware of emerging Internet technologies that child predators may abuse in order to endanger children; and

WHEREAS: The Stop Child Predators organization's new "Stop Internet Predators" campaign seeks to increase awareness and educate Florida residents on these technologies, as well as to provide parents with safeguards to protect their children; and

WHEREAS: The City of Jacksonville and local law enforcement, service agencies and community organizations are working to protect children from predators abusing the Internet.

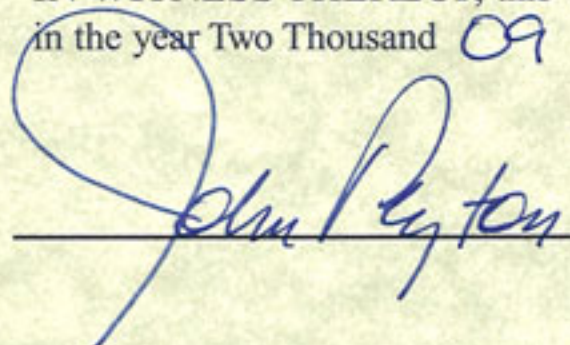
NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN PEYTON, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim May 18 through 24, 2009 as

STOP INTERNET PREDATORS SUMMER SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to join local efforts to address child sexual abuse and abduction, and to learn about how child predators abuse the Internet in order to threaten families and children.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 18th day of May
in the year Two Thousand 09


MAYOR

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA