

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, human trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of forced labor or sexual servitude; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking is a 32-billion dollar a year global criminal enterprise and is a crime as well as a civil and human rights violation; and

WHEREAS, the United States government estimates that 600,000 to 800,000 individuals are trafficked across international borders each year and exploited through forced labor and forced commercial sexual activity; and

WHEREAS, the US is a major destination country for international trafficking victims as approximately 14,500-17,500 folks are trafficked into the country each year. These numbers do not include domestically trafficked children and adults; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking is a crime that impacts North Carolina; and

WHEREAS FBI analysts have stated that close to 25% of international trafficking victims end up in the southeast, including North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 criminalized human trafficking at the federal level; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina passed anti-trafficking legislation in 2006 and 2007; and

WHEREAS, more awareness and education is crucial to eradicating human trafficking in our communities, state and nation; and

WHEREAS, Human Trafficking Awareness Day is observed on January 11 in municipalities across the country in order to educate the public and raise awareness about human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Chapel Hill has a strong commitment to social justice; and

WHEREAS, in 2007 the Town of Chapel Hill passed A Resolution Supporting Efforts to End Human Trafficking in North Carolina (2007-05-07/R- 11);

NOW, THEREFORE, the Chapel Hill Town Council does hereby proclaim January 11, 2010 as Human Trafficking Awareness Day in the Town of Chapel Hill and urges the residents of Chapel Hill to support efforts and take action to end human trafficking.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL
OF THE TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL ON THIS
THE SIXTH DAY OF JANUARY IN THE
YEAR TWO THOUSAND TEN.**

Mark Kleinschmidt, Mayor