

Proclamation

WHEREAS, sexual assault affects women, children, and men of all racial, cultural, and economic backgrounds; and



WHEREAS, in addition to the immediate physical and emotional costs, sexual assault may also have associated consequences of post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, depression, homelessness, eating disorders, and suicide; and



WHEREAS, sexual assault can be devastating for not only the survivor, but also for the family and friends of the survivor; and



WHEREAS, no one person, organization, agency or community can eliminate sexual assault on their own, but we can work together to educate our entire population about what can be done to prevent sexual assault, support victims or survivors and their significant others, and increase support for agencies providing services to victims or survivors; and



WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month provides an excellent opportunity for citizens to learn more about preventing sexual violence;



NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gow B. Fields, as Mayor of the City of Lakeland, Florida, do hereby proclaim and recognize the month of April, 2010, as

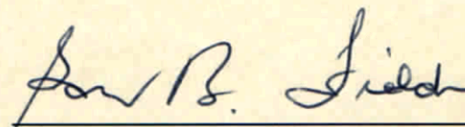
SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

in Lakeland, Florida.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Lakeland to be affixed this 24th day of March 2010.




Gow B. Fields, Mayor
Lakeland, Florida