

**In Recognition of
National Long-Term Care Residents' Rights Month 2012
October 2012**

WHEREAS, there are more than 1.6 million individuals living in 16,000 nursing homes; and 1 million individuals living in 50,000 board and care/assisted living facilities in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, the federal Nursing Home Reform Act of 1987 guarantees residents their individual rights in order to promote and maintain their dignity and autonomy; and

WHEREAS, all residents should be aware of their rights so they may be empowered to live with dignity and self-determination; and

WHEREAS, we wish to honor and celebrate these citizens, to recognize their rich individuality, and to reaffirm their right to vote and participate politically, including the right to have a say in their care; and

WHEREAS, individuals and groups across the country will be celebrating Residents' Rights Month with the theme –“My Voice, My Vote, My Right”– to emphasize the importance of affirming these rights through facility practices, public policy and resident-centered decision-making.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, as City Commissioners of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, do hereby proclaim October 2012 as:

National Long-Term Care Residents' Rights Month

in the City of Fort Lauderdale and do encourage all citizens to join us in this important observance.

DATED this, the 16th day of October 2012.

Mayor John P. “Jack” Seiler

