

**In Recognition of  
National Preparedness Month  
September 2013**

- WHEREAS,** since its inception in 2004, National Preparedness Month is observed each September. Sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) within the Department of Homeland Security, Preparedness Month encourages Americans to take simple steps to prepare for any type of emergency or hazard in their homes, businesses, schools, and communities; and
- WHEREAS,** September has historically been the most active month for hurricanes with 36 of 64 major hurricanes affecting the United States occurring during this month; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of Fort Lauderdale has made it a high priority to continue to build a strong and viable “culture of preparedness” throughout our city utilizing the training from Citizen Corps - Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), that has taken place in the private sector, churches and throughout our neighborhoods; and
- WHEREAS,** those who are prepared for emergencies recover faster and can help others who also may be affected, demonstrating community spirit in the face of adversity; and
- WHEREAS,** emergency preparedness is a shared responsibility, and every family that is able should prepare to be self-sufficient for the first 72 hours after disaster strikes; and
- WHEREAS,** Fort Lauderdale families can start their preparedness actions by being informed, make an emergency plan, build a disaster supply kit, and to get involved; and
- WHEREAS,** the recent effects of Hurricane Wilma and Hurricane Sandy were moderate in our City, we need to remember and reflect on the death and destruction that Hurricane Andrew did in Miami, and Hurricane Katrina did to the Gulf Coast and heed the watches or warnings issued for our area, stay informed of any hazard threat that may affect our City, establish an emergency plan, notify family and friends of your plan, have a disaster supply kit that will sustain each family member for at least five days which includes food, water, medications, clothes, and battery-powered radio with extra batteries.

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

**NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH**

in the City of Fort Lauderdale and do encourage all citizens to be ready for all emergencies by taking steps to prepare at home, at work and in our communities

**DATED this,** the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of September 2013.

---

**Mayor John P. “Jack” Seiler**

