

- WHEREAS, the city of Fort Lauderdale Florida has always supported its military veteran population; and
- WHEREAS, the Purple Heart is the oldest military decoration in present use and initially created as the Badge of Military Merit by General George Washington in 1782; and
- WHEREAS, the Purple Heart was the first American service award or decoration made available to the common soldier and is specifically awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces who have been wounded or paid the ultimate sacrifice in combat with a declared enemy of the United States of America; and
- WHEREAS, the mission of the Military Order of the Purple Heart is to foster an environment of goodwill among the combat-wounded veteran members and their families, promote patriotism, support legislative initiatives, and most importantly – make sure we never forget; and
- **WHEREAS**, the Fort Lauderdale metropolitan area has a large highly decorated veteran population including many Purple Heart recipients; and
- WHEREAS, the city of Fort Lauderdale appreciates the sacrifices our Purple Heart recipients made in defending our freedoms and believe it is important that we acknowledge them for their courage and show them the honor and support they have earned.

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

## A PURPLE HEART CITY

and encourage the citizens of Fort Lauderdale to show their appreciation for the sacrifices the Purple Heart recipients have made in defending our freedoms, to acknowledge their courage, and to show them the honor and support they have earned.

DATED this, the 21st day of April 2015.



