



Whereas, the word “justice” appears in many of the United States’ most cherished documents to include the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Pledge of Allegiance; and

Whereas, the National Alliance of Faith and Justice founded the national observance of Justice Sunday™ in 2000 to honor the role of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as a clergy and drum major for justice and to commemorate the spirit and selfless acts of thousands of diverse faith and community volunteers, past and present, to preserve human dignity and serve this present age of social change; and

Whereas, the year-long continuum of Justice Sunday™ which begins January 14, 2018, offers a benchmark to launch or renew efforts to build mutual respect, promote principles of non-violence, and collaborate in efforts to ensure all children retain and maximize access to the pencil (education) rather than the pen(itentiary), and;

Whereas, the theme of Justice Sunday™ 2018 continuum, “*A Charge To Keep We Have: To Serve This Present Age*” challenges all to facilitate assistance in transformation and healing (f.a.i.t.h) before and beyond the MLK National Day of Service; and

Whereas, on January 15 (the birthdate of Dr. King and 2018 MLK National Day of Service) the Martin Luther King Center for Nonviolent Social Change will launch a worldwide campaign to encourage individuals to cross racial, cultural, and economic divides by participating in service projects or acts of kindness in their community, and

Whereas, 2018 marks the 50th anniversary since the assassination of Dr. King, the 50th anniversary of the Poor People’s Campaign, the 55th anniversary of the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, and

Whereas, January is National Mentoring Month during which NAFJ partners with the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice, institutions of faith and education, federal, municipal and community stakeholders to encourage mentoring as a service priority, and

Whereas, NAFJ encourages the use of National Park Service sites as resources to promote civic dialog and interpretation of relevant themes such as civil rights; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I (Name of Mayor or Commissioner), Mayor of (Name of Town/City/County), do hereby join with NAFJ and its local affiliate in urging all citizens to honor change through a broader commitment to volunteerism and service around pressing social issues.