

# *Proclamation*

*Whereas*, the open exchange of public discourse is essential to the democratic system of government; and

*Whereas*, as a cornerstone of democracy Americans have observed certain rules of behavior generally known as civility;

*Whereas*, civility, derived from the Latin words “civitas” meaning city and “civis” meaning citizen, is behavior worthy of citizens living in a community or in common with others; and

*Whereas*, displays of anger, rudeness, ridicule, impatience, and a lack of respect and personal attacks detract from the open exchange of ideas, prevent fair discussion of the issues, and can discourage individuals from participation in government; and

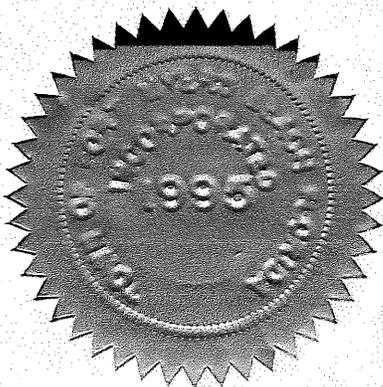
*Whereas*, civility can assist in reaching consensus on diverse issues and allow for mutually respectful ongoing relationships; and

*Whereas*, civility can uplift our daily life and make it more pleasant to live in an organized society; and

*Whereas*, the City, County and Local Government Law Section of The Florida Bar urges the adoption of a pledge of civility by all citizens in the State of Florida.

*Now, therefore, be it resolved*, by the Town Council of the Town of Fort Myers Beach that the month of May is proclaimed as Civility Month, and calls upon all citizens to exercise civility toward each other.

Passed and adopted this 6<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2011.



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Larry Kiker, Mayor  
Town of Fort Myers Beach