

A PROCLAMATION

BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF SMYRNA In Recognition of Black History Month

Whereas: Each year during *Black History Month*, the City of Smyrna explores the history and culture of African Americans, discovering stories of courage and sacrifice; and

Whereas: This year's theme for Black History Month is, "African Americans in Times of War," and commemorates the centennial of the end of the First World War in 1918; and

Whereas: The theme provides a framework for focusing on the roles of African Americans in every American war, from the Revolutionary War Era to that of the present "War against Terrorism;" and

Whereas: More than 3,500 black Georgians served in the Union army and navy between 1862 and 1865; and 17,000 black Georgians served overseas in World War I; and

Whereas: Over a million African American men and women served this country during World War II and 708 died in combat; and


Whereas: Over 11,000 African American servicemen and women have given their lives in military service during the Korean War, Vietnam War, Persian Gulf War, and operations in Iraq and Afghanistan; and

Whereas: Reflecting on these sacrifices provides the opportunity to examine issues faced by these and other African Americans in times of war. Issues include opportunities for advancement during wartime; the struggle to integrate the military; and the experiences of veterans once they returned home; Now

Therefore: I, A. Max Bacon, Mayor of the City of Smyrna, Georgia, do hereby proclaim the month of February, 2018, to be *Black History Month*.



*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and
cause the Seal of the City of Smyrna to be affixed upon
this 5th day of February in the
year of Our Lord 2018.*



Mayor

A. Max Bacon