

## PROCLAIMING THE TOWN OF PERDIDO BEACH ALABAMA, AS "A PURPLE HEART TOWN" IN BALDWIN COUNTY ALABAMA

WHEREAS, the Purple Heart is the oldest military decoration in the world in present use; and

WHEREAS, the Purple Heart is awarded in the name of the President of the United States to members of the Armed Forces who are wounded in a conflict with an enemy force or are wounded while held by an enemy force as prisoners of war, and is awarded posthumously to the next of kin of members of the Armed Forces who are killed in a conflict with an enemy force or who die of wounds received in a conflict with an enemy force; and

WHEREAS, the Purple Heart was established on August 7, 1782, during the Revolutionary War, when General George Washington issued an order establishing the Honorary Badge of Distinction, otherwise known as the Badge of Military Merit; and

WHEREAS, the award of the Purple Heart ceased with the end of the Revolutionary War, but was revived in 1932, the 200th anniversary of George Washington's birth, out of respect for his memory and military achievements; and as a Town observing to be a Purple Heart Town is a fitting tribute to George Washington and to the approximately two million recipients of the Purple Heart;

WHEREAS, Baldwin County has a large veteran population and is the home to a number of Purple Heart recipients and is the home of the Alabama State Memorial Veterans Cemetery at Spanish Fort Alabama which is the resting place of many Purple Heart recipients; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Perdido Beach Mayor and the Town Council have a great admiration for the men and women who have selflessly served our country and acknowledges our Veterans who have paid the high price of freedom by leaving their families and communities behind and placing their own lives in harm's way for the good of all; now therefore

BE IT PROCLAIMED, BY THE TOWN OF PERDIDO BEACH TOWN COUNCIL in regular session assembled, that we hereby proclaim the Town of Perdido Beach, Alabama as a "Purple Heart Town" in Baldwin County, in the State Alabama; and

FURTHERMORE, encourage all the citizens of the Town of the Town of Perdido Beach Alabama and Baldwin County to learn about the history of the Purple Heart and to honor the members of the Armed Forces who have been awarded the Purple Heart. And to show their appreciation for the sacrifices that have been made in defending our freedoms, to acknowledge their courage, and the respect that they have earned.

Proclaimed on this 16<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2017

ATTEST:

Kae Hamilton, Mayor

Lynn Thompson, Clerk