

# PROCLAMATION

*WHEREAS, it is estimated that 160,000 children miss school every day due to fear of attack or intimidation by other students, and that American schools harbor approximately 2.1 million bullies and 2.7 million of their victims; and*

*WHEREAS, bullying statistics say that revenge is the strongest motivation for school shootings, with the perpetrators saying that they are motivated by the desire to get back at those who have hurt them. Harassment and bullying have been linked to 75% of school shooting incidents; and*

*WHEREAS, research shows that nearly half of lesbian, gay, or bisexual students have reported being physically harassed, and one quarter have reported being physically assaulted. Of those who report these incidents, nearly one third say that school staff did nothing in response; and*

*WHEREAS, harassment and bullying can lead students to self harm or even to commit suicide, which is one of the leading causes of death of children under 14; and*

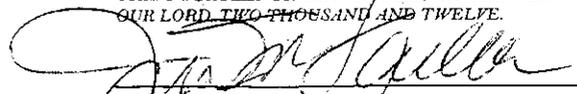
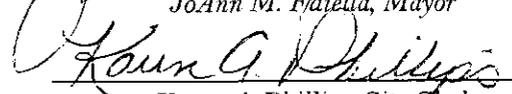
*WHEREAS, bullying has gone too far. It takes one person to start something, but it takes you to start a revolution. Support this cause by wearing the color teal and by spreading the anti-bullying message.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, JoAnn M. Faiella, Mayor of the City of Port St. Lucie, do proclaim that the month of May 2012 be observed as:*

## *Let Your Voice Echo Month*

*in the City of Port St. Lucie, and I urge all citizens to promote acceptance and to make Port St. Lucie a bully-free zone.*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY  
HAND AND CAUSED THE OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE  
CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE, FLORIDA, TO BE AFFIXED,  
THIS FOURTEENTH DAY OF MAY, IN THE YEAR OF  
OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND AND TWELVE.

  
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JoAnn M. Faiella, Mayor  
  
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Karen A. Phillips, City Clerk

