

# PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS:** The great civil rights movement activist Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was born January 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia; and

**WHEREAS:** Dr. King rose to national prominence as leader of the Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA) in 1955 when the organization arranged a boycott of Montgomery's bus service following Rosa Parks' refusal to vacate her seat for a white passenger. His leadership role grew when he became the first president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC); and

**WHEREAS:** Dr. King's advocacy for nonviolence and civil disobedience shaped the trajectory of the civil rights movement and brought about many successes in securing the rights of African-Americans nationwide; unfortunately, he was unable to see his vision through to fruition due to his death in 1968; and

**WHEREAS:** Plans to commemorate Dr. King's birthday began in the months after his death. His widow, Coretta Scott King, would continue to advocate for the creation of a federal holiday until an official observance, on the third Monday in January, was signed into law by President Ronald Reagan in 1983; and

**WHEREAS:** As a result of the continued advocacy of Mrs. King, President Bill Clinton signed the Martin Luther King, Jr. Federal Holiday and Service Act in 1994, expanding the mission of the holiday as a day of community service, interracial cooperation and youth anti-violence initiatives; and

**WHEREAS:** On what would be Dr. King's 90th birthday, the City of Jacksonville joins our nation in remembering his leadership's indelible impact on generations of Americans of every race, creed and background.

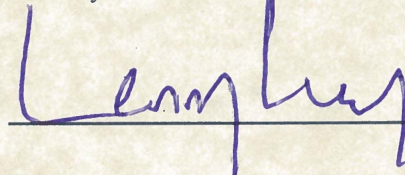
**NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY,** by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby commemorate

## THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

on January 15, 2019, and encourage all Jacksonville citizens to join me in honoring Dr. King's legacy and furthering his vision through efforts in service to our community.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 18<sup>th</sup> day of December  
in the year Two Thousand 18

  
MAYOR

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA