

WHEREAS: The men and women in all branches of our Armed Forces are

dedicated to protecting and serving United States citizens. Throughout our nation's history, many of these patriots have given the ultimate

sacrifice to protect our freedoms; and

WHEREAS: Fallen service members may leave behind parents, siblings, spouses

and children. A folded flag presented to these families represents the

most solemn of rites; and

WHEREAS: Over the past 35 years, nearly 20,000 American children have suffered

the loss of an active duty military parent; and

WHEREAS: Inspired by the unborn daughter of Sergeant William Delaney Gibbs,

who was killed in action just before Christmas of 1989, a fellow soldier, David Kim, established the Children of Fallen Patriots Foundation. This organization supports the needs of children who have lost a parent in

the line of duty; and

WHEREAS: Northeast Florida is home to three major military installations and is a

proud military-friendly community, with many active service members,

more than 150,000 veterans, and their families; and

WHEREAS: Jacksonville citizens are invited to observe Children of Fallen Patriots

Day on May 13, in support of the children whose parents dedicated

their lives in service to our country.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY, by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim May 13, 2018 as

## CHILDREN OF FALLEN PATRIOTS DAY

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to pause and remember the sacrifices of our fallen patriots and recognize the children they have left behind.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 4th day of May in the year Two Thousand 18

MAYOR