

**Annual Christmas tree Lighting Ceremony
Riverfront Park - November 26, 2010
Mayor Johnson Remarks**

First, I like to say that I'm still humbled by the opportunity giving me three years ago to serve as Mayor of this great city and I proudly say with that opportunity, we have accomplished much together.

Secondly, I like to thank each of you for coming out and joining with us as we usher in the official 2010 Christmas holiday season here in historic Apalachicola.

Each year dozens and dozens of people gather here at Riverfront Park to witness Santa's arrival by shrimp boat and to take part in the tree lighting ceremony.

All of this is a huge undertaking for which I like to personally recognize and thank Anita Grove, the executive director of the local chamber for working tirelessly organizing this event.

Yesterday we gathered with family and friends around our respective dinner tables and gave thanks for the many blessings and opportunities bestowed upon us.

Today in the shadow of that gratitude, we gather at the start of the most joyous time of the year to reflect back on our life and think about all that we did, didn't, and desire to do.

As we approach a New Year and resolve to do things differently. May our resolutions include Christ, His love and understanding, truth and respect toward others?

From the Apalachicola Board of City Commissioners and staff - I wish each of you and your families a Merry Christmas and a joyous New Year.