

**MAYOR'S HOLIDAY PROCLAMATION
DECLARING DECEMBER 2007
AS THE OFFICIAL HOLIDAY SEASON
IN THE CITY OF APALACHICOLA**

WHEREAS: As Americans gather with family and friends to celebrate the Holidays, we give thanks for the many blessings we have received over the last year and pray for guidance and strength as we look toward the challenges of 2008; and

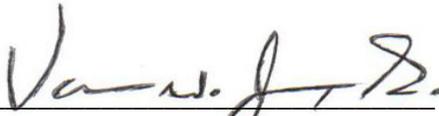
WHEREAS: The Holiday tradition means many things to all of us. We welcome it as a time to worship a new beginning in our religious foundation. We find in it the strength derived from the support of loved ones. We celebrate the opportunity to help those who are less able to help themselves. We cast a cautious and welcome eye to the future as we come together to share the blessings of life and community; and

WHEREAS: Through the years the City of Apalachicola has survived great challenges and derived great strength from its citizens. This Holiday season is no different. As a diverse and strong community we have shown great personal willingness to share our wealth, provide comfort during times of sorrow, and to join together to celebrate the great and small victories of life; and

WHEREAS: As we enter 2008, there are great challenges before us. We shall continue to work toward a strong and ecologically sustainable bay and seafood resources as we work to insure a diversity of our economy that includes a place for everyone. We will continue to work for good schools, an accessible health system, and an improved sense of community among our neighbors and friends. In doing so, we will work for strong bodies, sharp minds, surer faith and charity toward others.

NOW, THEREFORE: I, Van W. Johnson, Sr., Mayor of the City of Apalachicola, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Charter of the City of Apalachicola, do hereby proclaim the month of December 2007, as the official Holiday Season in Apalachicola. In doing so, I encourage all Citizens to celebrate as they deem appropriate in their places of worship with family, friends, and loved ones to reinforce the ties that bind us and give thanks for the freedoms and many blessings we enjoy. In addition, I encourage all Citizens to rededicate themselves to share in their blessings by finding some way to improve the life of just one other resident during this month of celebration and in the year to come. And finally, I welcome all the residents of this wonderful City to join me and other leaders in providing a unified force toward facing the challenges of the coming year.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF: I have hereunto set my hand this first day of December, in the year of our Lord two thousand seven, and of the establishment of our great City the one hundredth and seventy-first.



Van W. Johnson, Sr., Mayor