City of Suffolk, Virginia

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Holocaust was the state-sponsored, systematic persecution and execution of certain citizens by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945; and

WHEREAS, although Europeans of Jewish descent were the primary victims, Gypsies, the disabled, Jehovah's Witnesses, Soviet prisoners of war and political dissidents were among those also targeted for destruction; and

WHEREAS, the history of the Holocaust offers an opportunity to reflect on the moral responsibilities of individuals, societies, and governments; and

WHEREAS, the terrible events of the Holocaust serve keep our society on guard against hatred, discrimination, and oppression and promote the principles of individual freedom in a just society; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Public Law 96-388 passed October 7, 1980, the United States Holocaust Memorial Council designates the Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust to be Sunday, May 1 through Sunday, May 8, 2011, including the Day of Remembrance known as *Yom Hashoah*, May 1, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Days of Remembrance have been set aside for the people of the United States to remember the victims of the Holocaust as well as to promote human dignity.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Linda T. Johnson, Mayor of the City of Suffolk, Virginia, do hereby proclaim May 1 through May 8, 2011, as

"DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE"

in Suffolk, Virginia and urge the residents of Suffolk to strive to overcome intolerance and indifference through learning and remembrance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Suffolk to be affixed this 4th day of March in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Eleven.

Linda T. Johnson

Linda T. Johnson
Mayor