Proclamation

Office of the Mayor

WHEREAS, the Holocaust was the state-sponsored , systematic persecution and annihilation of European Jewry by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945 - six million were murdered; Roma (Gypsies), people with disabilities, and Poles were also targeted for destruction or decimation for racial, ethnic, or national reasons; and millions more, including homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses, Soviet prisoners of war, and political dissidents, also suffered grievous oppression and death under Nazi tyranny; and

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

WHEREAS, we the people of the City of Bakersfield should always remember the terrible events of the Holocaust and remain vigilant against hatred, persecution, and tyranny; and

WHEREAS, we the people of the City of Bakersfield should actively rededicate ourselves to the principles of individual freedom in a just society,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Harvey L. Hall, Mayor of the City of Bakersfield, do hereby proclaim April 15, through April 22, 2012, as

"DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE"

in our city, including April 19, 2012, the Day of Remembrance known as Yom Hashoah, in memory of the victims of the Holocaust, and in honor of the survivors, as well as the rescuers and liberators, and further proclaim that we, as citizens of the City of Bakersfield, should work to promote human dignity and confront hate whenever and wherever it occurs.

DATED, at Bakersfield, California, this 19th day of April, 2012.