Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Holocaust was the state-sponsored, systematic persecution and annihilation of European Jewry by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 to 1945. Jews were the primary victims - six million were murdered; also Gypsies and the handicapped were targeted for destruction or decimation for racial, ethnic or national reasons. 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 Village of Skokie should always remember the terrible events of the Holocaust and should remain vigilant against bigotry and tyranny; and

WHEREAS, we the people of the Village of Skokie should continually rededicate ourselves to the principles of equality and justice for all; and

WHEREAS, the Days of Remembrance have been set aside for the people of the Village of Skokie to remember the victims of the Holocaust as well as to reflect upon our own humanity and the need for respect of all peoples; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to an Act of Congress (Public Law 96-388, October 7, 1980) the United States Holocaust Memorial Council designates the Days of Remembrance of the victims of the Holocaust to be the week of Sunday, April 15 through Sunday, April 22, 2012, including the international Day of Remembrance known as Yom Hashoah, April 19, 2012.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE VAN DUSEN, Mayor of the Village of Skokie, hereby proclaim Sunday, April 15 through April 22, 2012, as the

"DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE 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 Village of Skokie, should strive to overcome intolerance and indifference through learning and remembrance.

Dated this 2nd day of April 2012

George Van Dusen
Mayor

Marlene Williams, Village Clerk

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