



Proclamation

Whereas: July 26, 2015, marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) being signed into law, comprising the best comprehensive civil rights law for people with disabilities; and

Whereas: The ADA affirms the fundamental and inalienable rights that all persons have the right to participate fully in all areas of society, free from discrimination or prejudice; and

Whereas: It is vital that we inform citizens that the City of Virginia Beach will continue to ensure that policies and practices support each person's right to independence, and their ability to gainfully participate in our economy; as well as remove possible barriers to education, employment, housing, transportation, public services and accommodations; and

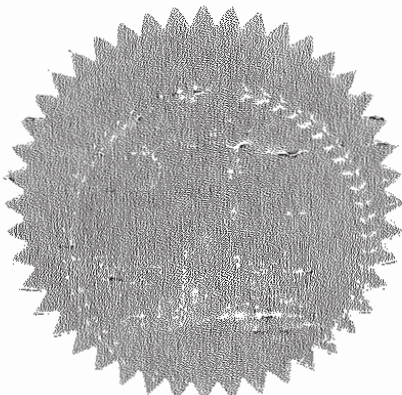
Whereas: We have City Council-appointed boards and commissions to assist staff with eliminating any barriers for Virginia Beach citizens or visitors with disabilities; and

Whereas: We will ensure equal access, equal opportunity, and equal respect for all of our citizens and visitors; and

Whereas: The City of Virginia Beach is committed to championing the rights of all citizens.

Now, Therefore, I, William D. Sessoms, Jr., Mayor of the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia, do hereby encourage all citizens and business owners to acquaint themselves with - and participate in - the observance of the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act by supporting disability advocates, to recognize the good work performed by disabled heroes, and to work together to support those citizens who deserve to live in a society where all things are possible.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia, to be affixed this Tenth day of September, Two Thousand and Fifteen.



William D. Sessoms, Jr.
Mayor