



Proclamation

- Whereas:* The National League of Cities is committed to promoting racial equality and justice as a fundamental aspect of a healthy community and has urged local officials across the country to join together in a national campaign to promote racial equality and justice; and
- Whereas:* By Act of Congress of the United States dated July 2, 1964, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was adopted banning discrimination because of a person's color, race, national origin, religion, or sex; and
- Whereas:* By Act of Congress of the United States dated July 9, 1868, the 14th Amendment of the Constitution of the United States gives all persons born or naturalized in the United States the right to due process and equal protection under the law; and
- Whereas:* The Virginia Beach Human Rights Commission serves as a positive advocate for human rights in our community and promotes mutual understanding and respect among citizens; and
- Whereas:* The National League of Cities has invited localities to renew their commitment to ensuring racial equality and justice for all during the week of September 29, 2003 by reporting on successful programs and announcing specific action plans for the coming year.

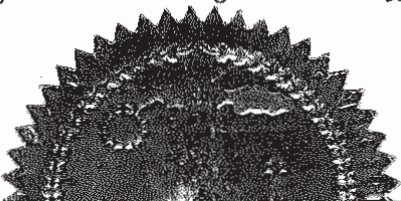
Now, Therefore, I, Meyera E. Oberndorf, Mayor of the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia, do hereby Proclaim:

September 29 - October 3, 2003

Race Equality Week

In Virginia Beach, and I reaffirm my commitment to ensuring racial equality and justice in our community and to working with the National League of Cities to sustain this commitment throughout the country. I further urge all Civic Leagues and Citizens to support efforts that declare racism unjust and that advocate equal rights for all.

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 First day of August, Two Thousand Three.



Meyera E. Oberndorf
Meyera E. Oberndorf
Mayor