## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, fifty years ago, in June of 1969, patrons and supporters of the Stonewall Inn in New York City defied an unjust policy and stood up to actively resist the harassment and persecution to which LGBTQ Individuals were commonly subjected; and

**WHEREAS**, this courageous uprising was henceforth etched in American Civil Rights history and became known as the Stonewall Uprising and the birth of the modern LGBTQ movement for equal justice and equal opportunity for LGBTQ Individuals; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Alexandria is proud to remember inspiring and brave leaders who fought for justice and dignity, as well as the allies who supported them, and celebrate the current leaders forging ahead; and

WHEREAS, in the spirit of those historic leaders and in continuing the work for equity, the Alexandria LGBTQ Task Force, convened in 2007, provides an inclusive forum where LGBTQ people and allies gather quarterly to network, share ideas, and plan training and community events; and

**WHEREAS**, the goal of the Task Force is to create safe and inclusive service provision in the City of Alexandria that affirms a person's sexual orientation and/or gender identity; and

WHEREAS, in a climate where LGBTQ people still face discrimination and suffer high rates of violence simply for being who they are, in a climate where the gains toward equality are systematically being rolled back, Alexandria City leaders, employees, and community members will persist in working to create safe and inclusive services and spaces for all; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Alexandria reaffirms our commitment to supporting LGBTQ people and strengthening LGBTQ rights because they are human rights.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUSTIN M. WILSON**, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby recognize June 2019, as:

## "LGBTQ PRIDE MONTH"

In the City of Alexandria, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF*, I have here unto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 11<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2019.

	MAYOR JUSTIN M. WILSON On behalf of the City Council of Alexandria, Virginia
ATTEST:	
Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk	