



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Joe Abston was a dedicated servant leader who made many valuable contributions to the community, and his legacy will live on throughout the City of Pascagoula; and

WHEREAS, Joe was born November 22, 1969, in Pascagoula, Mississippi, to J.T. & Francis Abston; and

WHEREAS, Joe grew up in Gautier, MS, playing basketball, baseball, and football while in junior high and high school where he met the love of his life, Missy; and

WHEREAS, Joe was united in marriage to Missy (Beckham) and has two daughters named Briana and Maggie and their exchange student, Edna Villalobos affectionally know as their first daughter; and

WHEREAS, Joe completed his Bachelor of Accounting and Master of Professional Accountancy at Mississippi State University; and

WHEREAS, in 1994, he began working for Jackson County Port Authority of Pascagoula where he was a loyal employee as a Financial Manager for 27 years; and

WHEREAS, Joe was a long time member of Arlington Baptist Church where he served as Deacon, Sunday school teacher and treasurer over many years; and

WHEREAS, Joe was passionate about his mission to make his community a better place, and always willing to help a friend or a stranger; and

WHEREAS, as an advocate, he served the City of Pascagoula as a Councilman for 3 terms and was involved in many organizations as a referee/treasurer for the Gulf Coast Football Officials; Chairman of the Supervisory Committee for Singing River Federal Credit Union, Treasurer for the Pascagoula Country Club; Mississippi State Alumni Association Gulf Coast Chapter member & scholarship committee chair; member of the Pascagoula Men's Club; member of Pascagoula Camp of Gideon International; Board of Directors for the Benevolent and Protective Order Elks lodge # 1120; and beloved Santa for the Pascagoula Community. Joe loved to watch Mississippi State sports and was an original announcer for MSU Bulldog Sports Radio.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Jay Willis, Mayor of the City of Pascagoula, Mississippi, do hereby recognize Joe Abston for his substantial and valuable contribution to our community and the city.

Throughout Pascagoula, Joe was known for his giving spirit and his love for his community. We will miss you dearly **"BULLDAWG JOE"**.

Jay Willis
Mayor