

Proclamation

**In Recognition of
International Overdose Awareness Day
August 31, 2016**

- WHEREAS,** addiction is an American Medical Association defined disease and the stigma associated with addiction must be addressed so that no one feels shame or disgrace over a legal or illegal drug poisoning (overdose); and
- WHEREAS,** drug poisoning (overdose) is the number one cause of injury deaths in the nation with an accidental drug overdose death occurring every 11 minutes, surpassing deaths from motor vehicle accidents or gun homicides; and
- WHEREAS,** according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 47,055 people died in the United States as a result of a drug poisoning (overdose) or 129 per day during 2014, the most current reporting year; and
- WHEREAS,** according to the Florida Medical Examiners Commission, there were 1,752 accidental deaths in the State of Florida during 2014 caused by a prescription drug poisoning (overdose) including 136 in Broward County; and
- WHEREAS,** according to Florida Agency for Health Care Administration, there were 11,905 hospital patients admitted for prescription opioid drug poisoning (overdose) during 2014 in Florida, including 826 patients in Broward County, 704 in Palm Beach County, and 482 in Miami-Dade County; and
- WHEREAS,** by acknowledging all those who have been affected by prescription drug poisoning (overdose), we help the general public understand its effects on the community of Fort Lauderdale, Florida; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of Fort Lauderdale remains committed to raising awareness in order to combat stigma and educate our community about prescription drug poisoning (overdose) prevention.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, as City Commissioners of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, do hereby proclaim, **August 31, 2016** as:

International Overdose Awareness Day

in the city of Fort Lauderdale and urge all residents to learn about this disease and to aid and support those that are affected by it

DATED this, the 16th day of August 2016.




Mayor John P. "Jack" Seiler



**International Overdose
Awareness Day**