City of Fort Lauderdale

Citizen of the Year

PROCLAMATION HONORING
CHARLES A. "CHUCK" BLACK
AS CITIZEN OF THE YEAR FOR 2016

WHEREAS, *Charles A. "Chuck" Black was born on December 14, 1952 in Spartanburg, South Carolina. He earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the University of Maryland and a diploma in acting from the National Conservatory of Dramatic Arts in Washington, D.C.; and*

WHEREAS, *In 1974, Chuck Black began serving our country as a proud member of the U.S. Navy in leadership positions that included Senior Chief Fire Controlman; Navy recruiter in Europe; and administrator at Naval headquarters in Washington D.C.; and*

WHEREAS, *During his distinguished 20-year naval career, Chuck Black received two Navy and Marine Corps commendation medals, three Navy and Marine Corps achievement medals, four Good Conduct medals, and was selected as Sailor of the Year by two different commands; and*

WHEREAS, *In 2003, Chuck Black and his wife Lynn moved to Fort Lauderdale and opened Signs By Tomorrow, known today as Image360, an award-winning visual solutions company. In 2014, Image360 was named Small Business of the Year by the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce; and*

WHEREAS, *Chuck Black generously gave his time, talent, and energy to organizations including the City's Marine Advisory Board, Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale, the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce, Mission United, the L.A. Lee YMCA Family Center, Lake Ridge Civic Association, and Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Associations; and*

WHEREAS, *Chuck Black was a member of the National Board of Directors and Immediate Past South Florida Area President of the Navy League of the United States. He volunteered his leadership to the Navy League Foundation and the Navy League Fort Lauderdale Council, and served as Chairman of the commissioning of two Navy ships, the USS JASON DUNHAM (DDG 109) in 2010 and the Coast Guard Cutter, USCGC RICHARD ETHERIDGE (WPC 1102) in 2012; and*

WHEREAS, *The most memorable gift Chuck Black gave to our City may well have been spearheading the initiative to convince the Navy to name a ship in honor of Fort Lauderdale. The Navy's historic announcement in March 2016 that a new amphibious transport dock ship would bear the name USS FORT LAUDERDALE (LPD 28) culminated Chuck Black's incredible achievement; and*

WHEREAS, *Chuck Black was a true community builder, distinguished patriot, successful businessman, and exemplary role model whose legacy will live on in the thousands of lives he touched.*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA:

Section 1: *That Chuck Black is hereby selected and honored as Citizen of the Year of the City of Fort Lauderdale for 2016 in recognition of his many accomplishments and valuable contributions to the City of Fort Lauderdale and that the City Commission of the City of Fort Lauderdale hereby publicly recognizes and acknowledges these achievements and contributions and does hereby express its heartfelt appreciation to Chuck Black.*

Section 2: *That a plaque honoring Chuck Black as Citizen of the Year of the City of Fort Lauderdale for 2016 shall be presented to his wife, Lynn Elsasser, and his portrait shall hang in City Hall.*

Section 3: *That a parchment copy of this proclamation shall be furnished by the City Clerk to Lynn Elsasser as a further token of the sincere gratitude and appreciation of the City of Fort Lauderdale.*

DATED this, *the 5th day of October 2016.*

Mayor John P. "Jack" Seiler

CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
SEAL
ESTABLISHED MARCH 27, 1911