Proclamation
June 15th Elder Abuse Awareness Day

WHEREAS: Older adults deserve to be treated with respect and dignity to enable them to serve as leaders, mentors, volunteers and vital participating members of our communities; and

WHEREAS: In 2006, the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, in support of the United Nations International Plan of Action, proclaimed a day to recognize the significance of elder abuse as a public health and human rights issue; and

WHEREAS: 2023 marks the 17th Annual World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. Its recognition will promote a better understanding of abuse and neglect of older adults; and

WHEREAS: The National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA) and the City of Smithville recognize the importance of taking action to raise awareness, prevent and address elder abuse; and

WHEREAS: As our population lives longer, we are presented with an opportunity to think about our collective needs and future as a nation; and

WHEREAS: Ageism and social isolation are major causes of elder abuse in the United States; and

WHEREAS: Recognizing that it is up to all of us, to ensure that proper social structures exist so people can retain community and societal connections, reducing the likelihood of abuse; and

WHEREAS: Preventing abuse of older adults through maintaining and improving social supports like senior centers, human services and transportation will allow everyone to continue to live as independently as possible and contribute to the life and vibrancy of our communities; and

WHEREAS: Where there is justice there can be no abuse; therefore, NCEA urges all people to restore justice by honoring older adults.

THEREFORE; I, Damien Boley, Mayor of the City of Smithville do hereby proclaim June 15, 2023 as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day in Smithville, and encourage all of our communities to recognize and celebrate older adults and their ongoing contributions to the success and vitality of our country.

Dated this 6th day of June 2023

By_____
      Damien Boley, Mayor
      City of Smithville