

# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, on April 24, 1915 the Ottoman Turkish government began a premeditated campaign of ethnic cleansing and genocide against its Christian Armenian minority population, resulting in the death of an estimated one and one half million Armenians that continued until 1923; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 28, 1951, the United States Government affirmed the Armenian Genocide in a statement to the International Criminal Court, which states that "The Roman persecution of the Christians, the Turkish massacres of Armenians, the extermination of millions of Jews and Poles by the Nazis are outstanding examples of the crime of Genocide;" and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. House of Representatives officially acknowledged the World War I mass killing of Armenians as the Armenian Genocide through adopted legislation in 1975 and 1984; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 12, 2015, Pope Francis held a service at the Vatican with Armenian clergy and stated that the Armenian Christian "faith also accompanied and sustained your people during the tragic experience one hundred years ago in what is generally referred to as the first genocide of the twentieth century;" and

**WHEREAS**, forty-five U.S. states and twenty six countries have officially recognized the Armenian Genocide and likewise called upon the Government of Turkey to acknowledge their history; and

**WHEREAS**, recognition and reaffirmation of this tragedy educates people about the horrors of man's inhumanity to man and works to prevent future occurrences of genocides; and

**WHEREAS**, this Proclamation calls on the people of the United States to observe April 24<sup>th</sup> as a day of remembrance for all the victims of genocide, especially those of Armenian ancestry; and Armenian Americans contribute richly to Florida's social mosaic and add to our political, education and economic development.

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Steven B. Grant, Mayor of the City of Boynton Beach, Florida, do hereby proclaim April 24, 2017 as:

## Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Boynton Beach, Florida, to be affixed at Boynton Beach, Florida, the 18<sup>th</sup> day of April, Two Thousand Seventeen.

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Steven B. Grant, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Judith A. Pyle, CMC  
City Clerk

(Corporate Seal)