



Office of the Mayor  
City of Greenville

# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, the Constitution of the United States is one of history's great documents. Written more than 200 years ago, it contains the foundation for freedom and democracy that holds our country together today. When the new Constitution was presented to state legislators and the American people, there were protests that it did not contain a "Bill of Right," preserving to the people and to the State those inalienable rights proclaimed by the Declaration of Independence; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina declined to ratify the Constitution until a Bill of Rights was adopted. The First Congress drafted a Bill of Rights, which was ratified on December 15, 1791. That date is generally observed as the birthday of the Bill of Rights; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bill of Rights preserves and expands the freedoms of all Americans. Its provisions protect our freedom of expression and association, freedom of religion, due process, equal protection under the law and freedom of privacy; and

**WHEREAS**, all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act toward one another in a spirit of harmony; and

**WHEREAS**, we must, as individuals and as a people take a stand and continue to work together to make freedom, justice and equal opportunity available for all; and

**WHEREAS**, the primary responsibility to promote respect for these rights and freedoms lies with each individual of this country, and each of us can play a major role in enhancing human rights;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Robert D. Parrott, Mayor of the City of Greenville, North Carolina do hereby proclaim December 15, 2006 as

## **BILL OF RIGHTS DAY AND HUMAN RIGHTS DAY**

in Greenville and urge all residents to join in the rededication of themselves to the principles of human rights for all our citizens.

This 4th day of December, 2006.



Robert D. Parrott, Mayor