

WHEREAS, the Violence in Aging Council of Pitt County (VIAC) will be sponsoring the Elder Abuse Awareness Walk to kick off Elder Abuse Awareness Month, which is held in June;

WHEREAS, each year, more than two million vulnerable and older adults are victims of abuse, neglect, and exploitation;

WHEREAS, research has shown that older adults who are abused, neglected and exploited are three times more likely to die within ten years than those who are not;

WHEREAS, according to national statistics, elder abuse is grossly under reported because vulnerable and older adults who are being abused find it very difficult to tell anyone due to shame and fear;

WHEREAS, elder abuse affects men and women of all ethnic backgrounds and social status;

WHEREAS, elder abuse occurs in private residences and facilities;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Allen M. Thomas, Mayor of the City of Greenville, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim June 2013 as

ELDER ABUSE AWARENSS MONTH

in the City of Greenville, NC, and call upon citizens to recognize our elders and be vigilant against these cruel practices

This 6th day of May, 2013.

Allen M. Thomas, Mayor