



## PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Pit Bulls have endured an unfair reputation as a dangerous breed for years and been stereotyped and demonized by the media and been exploited, victimized, and abused by humans and comprise 33% of all shelter intakes nationally. Pit Bulls are the largest group of abandoned dogs that our FKSPCA (Florida Keys Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) shelters due to Breed Specific Legislation in adjacent counties --undertaking a monumental effort in caring for and finding adoptive homes for these noble animals--with a "no-kill" philosophy; and

WHEREAS, Pit Bulls have been bred for general human companionship and from the very beginning, been used as family dogs, and all-purpose companions and in our Agriculture past were affectionately known as "The Nanny Dog" or "The Children's Nursemaid" because of their nurturing demeanor toward children; and

WHEREAS, Pit Bulls have fulfilled important roles throughout the last 160-plus years of American history and many highly respected historical figures have owned Pit Bulls: President Woodrow Wilson, President Theodore Roosevelt, Humphrey Bogart, and others; and

WHEREAS, Pit Bulls have served courageously and loyally in many of our countries' armed conflicts, guarding our troops and leading the way into harm's way!; and

WHEREAS, Pit Bulls achieved a position of reverence among Americans, appearing in the classic children's television show, The Little Rascals, featured Petey the Pit Bull. Pit Bulls have even graced the cover of Life magazine three times. Pit Bulls are now beginning to be recognized, even by mainstream media and advertising, as the poster dogs for man's best friend in case after case of protecting and saving human lives; and

WHEREAS, today Pit Bulls loyally serve society as search and rescue dogs, therapy dogs visiting hospitals and senior communities, law enforcement, educational dogs, and service dogs; and

NOW, THEREFORE I, Tony Yaniz, District 4 City Commissioner, do hereby proclaim  
October, 2013 as

## PIT BULL AWARENESS MONTH

in the "Southernmost City of the Continental United States" I would like to urge all citizens, residents and visitors of our Southernmost City to participate fittingly in the observation.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the City of Key West, Florida, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of October 2013.

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Tony (Fat) Yaniz, D4 Commissioner