



PROCLAMATION

DON BETZ
Mayor

KATHERINE B. MOORE
Mayor Pro-Tem

COUNCIL MEMBERS

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HARPER PETERSON
CHARLES H. RIVENBARK, JR.

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City Manager

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City Attorney

PENELOPE SPICER-SIDBURY
City Clerk

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WHEREAS, on April 24, 1915, hundreds of leaders of the Armenian community in the Ottoman Empire were taken from their homes, arrested and put to death. By the end of 1923, one and one-half million innocent Armenian men, women, and children lost their lives in a devastating slaughter and approximately 500,000 additional Armenians fled to countries where they could find safety; and

WHEREAS, on Sunday, April 21, 1996, many of the Armenian-Americans will gather in Durham, North Carolina to remember the 1.5 million who were massacred under the Ottoman Turkish Government between 1915 and 1923; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pay tribute to the survivors of the Armenian genocide for their many cultural, economic and religious contributions have enriched our great city and nation; and

WHEREAS, while for many the memories are sad and painful, it is important to remember the horrors which may take place when human rights and respect for human life are disregarded and intolerance and racial hatred is allowed to flourish.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Don Betz, Mayor of the City of Wilmington, do hereby proclaim April 24, 1996

"A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE"

in Wilmington, North Carolina




Don Betz, Mayor