



# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, April is National Child Abuse Awareness Month, and

**WHEREAS**, 60% of the children in the system have no access to a volunteer to represent them, and

**WHEREAS**, abuse and neglect have long-term personal, economic, and social costs, hurting children today and impacting on their future, and

**WHEREAS**, the Guardian Ad Litem Program is a force of volunteers who advocate on behalf of children who have been abused, neglected, or abandoned, and

**WHEREAS**, the Guardian Ad Litem Program helps to improve the quality of information presented to the court by acting as the court's eyes and ears in the child's life, and

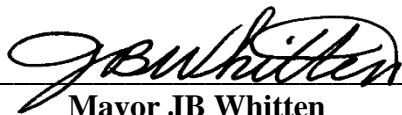
**WHEREAS**, the Guardian Ad Litem, through its volunteers, advocates, protects, and defends children from harm, ensures that all these children are provided with the court-ordered services they need, and works to assist in developing a plan that will provide these children with a safe, permanent home, and

**WHEREAS**, the Florida Guardian Ad Litem Program is very active in Okaloosa County and the City of Crestview

**NOW, THEREFORE I**, JB Whitten and our City Council do hereby declare the month of April as Child Abuse Awareness Month in the City of Crestview

## **CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH**

*DULY PASSED AND ADOPTED ON THIS 11<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF APRIL 2022*

  
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Mayor JB Whitten  
City of Crestview