



City of St. Augustine



La Lealísima y Valerosa Cuidad de San Agustín de la Florida

1565 - 2015

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, on the 8th day of September, in the year of our Lord fifteen hundred and sixty five, Pedro Menendez de Aviles, by the act of claiming this land for the King of Spain, founded San Augustin, in La Florida, the oldest continuously occupied European settlement in the land to become the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the events of that historic occasion be observed and re-created in the manner recorded four hundred and forty nine years ago; and

WHEREAS, on the 8th of September, 1565, a solemn Mass was offered on these grounds by Father Francisco Lopez de Mendoza Grajales, thus founding the parish of Saint Augustine and establishing Christianity in these lands; and

WHEREAS, September 8, 2016 marks the Four Hundred and Fifty-first Anniversary of the founding of St. Augustine and the very beginning of America, this unbroken history, enduring spirit, and rich cultural diversity.

*NOW, THEREFORE, the City Commission of the City of St. Augustine does hereby proclaim September 8, 2016 as **FOUNDER'S DAY**, in commemoration of the 451st Anniversary of the Founding of St. Augustine, Our Nation's Oldest City. And further, in celebration of this 451st Anniversary, we urge all our citizens to participate in the festivities and commemoration of this singular event.*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I hereunto set my hand and do cause the Seal and Title of the "Most Loyal and Valorous City" bestowed by His Majesty King Philip V in 1715 – to be affixed hereon, this 8th day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand and sixteen.

2016-23

Nancy E. Shaver, MAYOR

"Most Loyal and Valorous"
Title conferred upon the Presidio of St. Augustine by King Philip V of Spain, November 26, 1715