



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Master Chief Joseph W. Smith, a graduate of Hunter Huss High School, who enlisted in the United States Navy in 1996 from the great City of Gastonia, NC; and

WHEREAS, Master Chief Joseph W. Smith served his country in the world's mightiest Navy with distinction for 24 years; and

WHEREAS, Master Chief Joseph W. Smith achieved the highest rank possible for an enlisted sailor; and

WHEREAS, Master Chief Joseph W. Smith completed 13 strategic and tactical missions vital to national security onboard four of the nation's mightiest warships: USS KENTUCKY SSBN 737, USS NEW HAMPSHIRE SSN 778, USS HOUSTON SSN 713, and USS GEORGIA SSGN 729; and

WHEREAS, Master Chief Joseph W. Smith served with distinction, earning eight award medals; and his units earning three meritorious awards and three awards as the best submarine is the squadron.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Walker E. Reid III, Mayor of the City of Gastonia and the City Council of the City of Gastonia, recognize and congratulate

Master Chief Joseph W. Smith

on his retirement of 24 years in the Navy and thank him for his service to our great country.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Gastonia to be affixed, this the 11th day of August in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty.

Walker E. Reid III, Mayor

ATTEST:

Suzanne J. Gibbs, City Clerk