

# PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, Reverend Willie W. Branch, Jr., became an ordained African Methodist Episcopal Itinerate Elder in 1995 and began pastoring in 2001; and

**WHEREAS**, Reverend Branch served as Pastor of the Historic New Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church from September 2009 to September 2012. He is dedicated to the needs of Jesus as He comes to us in the needy and less fortunate, encouraging his parishioners to do good in our community, by recognizing their blessings and being aware of others—just as the Gospel teaches; and

**WHEREAS**, the church has been blessed, not only to have Reverend Branch, but also Mrs. Sharon Branch as she supported her husband in his efforts as he ministered to the community through programs such as a partnership with Access Florida and One Stop, a computer literacy program, and Boy Scouts of America; and

**WHEREAS**, Reverend Branch continues to be an example and witness to the community through his service as Chaplain to organizations such as the American Legion Post 267, Forty & Eight Post 294, the Ormond Beach Police Department and Florida Memorial Hospital. He further serves his community by serving as a board member of the Volusia County Chapter of Gospel Music Workshop of America and Ormond Beach's Neighborhood Improvement Advisory Board and Citizens' Law Enforcement Advisory Board; and

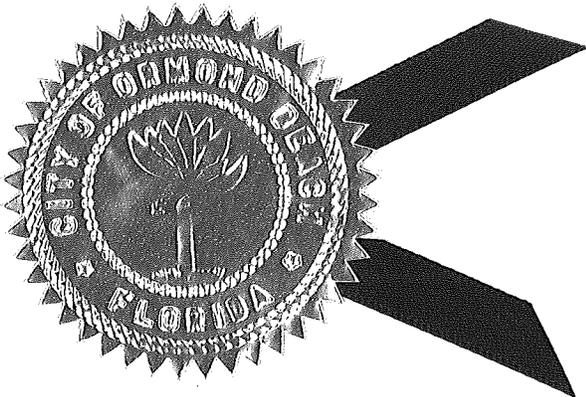
**WHEREAS**, it is with a heavy heart that we say goodbye to Reverend Branch but his legacy will live on through his continued ministry to Historic New Bethel AME Church and the community;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Ed Kelley, Mayor of the City of Ormond Beach, do hereby proclaim Sunday, October 28, 2012, as a day to honor

## REVEREND WILLIE W. BRANCH, JR.

in the City of Ormond Beach and call upon all Ormond Beach residents to join with me on this day in paying tribute to Reverend Willie W. Branch, Jr., for his years of service in the ministry and dedication to his profession and our community, and for a job well done!

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Ormond Beach, to be affixed this 28<sup>th</sup> day of October in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twelve.



  
ED KELLEY  
Mayor