

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of the United Nations approved the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on December 10, 1948, declaring that "recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world;" and

WHEREAS, the United States played a pivotal role in the creation of the Universal Declaration; and

WHEREAS, the basic human rights addressed in the Universal Declaration include economic, social, and cultural rights, as well as civil and political rights, all considered to be equally important in fostering human dignity and freedom; and

WHEREAS, the Universal Declaration calls for all people and governments at all levels to promote and respect the rights that it recognizes; and provides a standard of achievement for governments throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, in 1968, the City of Tacoma created the Tacoma Human Relations Commission, later to be named the Tacoma Human Rights Commission, whose purpose it is to ensure equal rights and protections for all City residents; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tacoma and the Tacoma Human Rights Commission are proud of their commitment to guarantee civil and human rights for all its residents,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BILL BAARSMA, Mayor of the City of Tacoma, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim December 10, 2009 as

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

in our City. On the occasion of the 61st Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, we ask all citizens to join with us to recommit to the broader achievement of human rights for all.

**WITNESS, THEREFORE, MY HAND
AND THE OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE
CITY OF TACOMA, WASHINGTON**
This 8th day of December 2009.



Bill Baarsma
BILL BAARSMA
Mayor

