

WHEREAS, the residents of Coral Gables recognize the vital role that swimming and aquatic activities relate to good physical and mental health and enhance the quality of life for all people; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Coral Gables understand the essential role that education regarding the topic of Water Safety plays in preventing drowning and recreational water-related injuries; and

WHEREAS, the City of Coral Gables is aware of the contributions made by the recreational water industry, as represented by the Association of Pool & Spa Professionals, the National Recreation & Park Association, the World Waterpark Association, the American Red Cross and Jeff Ellis & Associates in developing safe swimming facilities, aquatic programs, home pools and spas, and related activities providing healthy places to recreate, learn and grow, build self-esteem, confidence and a sense of self-worth which contributes to the quality of life in our community; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Coral Gables recognize the ongoing efforts of the Venetian Pool Lifeguards and the Venetian Aquatic Club Volunteers who dedicate themselves to the prevention and elimination of drowning and other catastrophic aquatic events and to further educate the public on pool and spa safety issues; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Coral Gables understand the vital importance of communicating Water Safety rules and programs to families and individuals of all ages, whether owners of private pools, users of public swimming facilities, or visitors to the City's very own Venetian Pool; and

WHEREAS, the Venetian Pool and its Lifeguard Staff was awarded the prestigious Platinum International Aquatic Safety Award, presented to only the top ten percent in the world by Jeff Ellis & Associates for consistently exceeding their criteria in aquatic safety and offering the highest degree of swimmer protection; and

Now, Therefore, I, Raul Valdes-Fauli, as Mayor of Coral Gables, along with the members of our City Commission, do hereby proudly proclaim the month of May, 2017 as:

National Water Safety Month