PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, this year marks the 25th Anniversary of the nation's first Drug Court; and

WHEREAS, Over the past twenty-five years Drug Courts have served over 1.4 million individuals; and

WHEREAS, Drug Courts are now recognized as the most successful criminal justice intervention in our nation's history; and

WHEREAS, Drug Courts save up to $27 for every $1 invested and produce up to $13,000 for every individual they serve; and

WHEREAS, 75% of Drug Court graduates will never see another pair of handcuffs; and

WHEREAS, Drug Courts significantly improve substance-abuse treatment outcomes, substantially reduce drug abuse and crime, and do so at less expense than any other justice strategy; and

WHEREAS, Drug Courts facilitate community-wide partnerships, bringing together public safety and public health professionals in the fight against drug abuse and criminality; and

WHEREAS, there are now 2,840 Drug Courts nationwide; and

WHEREAS, Drug Courts are the cornerstone of criminal justice reform sweeping the nation; and

WHEREAS, the extraordinary expansion of Drug Courts and the principles and practices 25 years ago has helped cause 40 years of escalating prison populations to decline; and

WHEREAS, Drug Courts demonstrate that when one person rises out of drugs and crime, we ALL RISE; and

WHEREAS, the time has come to put a Drug Court within reach of every eligible person in need.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the City of Benson, Arizona, declares that a "Drug Court Month" be established during the Month of May, 2014, recognizing the significant contributions Drug Courts have over the past 25 years toward reducing substance abuse, crime, and recidivism while saving valuable resources.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Benson, Cochise County, Arizona, this 12th day of May, 2014.

CITY OF BENSON
COCHISE COUNTY, ARIZONA
SEAL

TONEY D. KING, SR., Mayor

ATTEST:
Vicki L Vivian

VICKI L. VIVIAN, CMC, City Clerk

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