Proclamation

By the Mayor of Prattville, Alabama

WHEREAS, Alienating behaviors are often found in high conflict divorce and custody situations; and

WHEREAS, Speaking negatively about a parent to or in front of a child; interfering with communication and visitation; and discussing inappropriate information with a child such as details of the separation, court proceeding, or financial matters, are behaviors that can not only destroy the bond between a loving parent and child, but can cause a child mental and emotional harm; and

WHEREAS, Parental alienation takes advantage of the impressionable and dependent nature of children; and

WHEREAS, Parental alienation deprives children of their right to love and be loved by both parents; and

WHEREAS, Parental alienation is considered harmful to children, as the alienating tactics are confusing, frightening and rob children of their sense of security; and

WHEREAS, Professionals agree that the problem of parental alienation is damaging to children and can affect them into adulthood, with tragic consequences; and

WHEREAS, There are more than 2.4 million divorced North Americans, and in 2010 there were more than 21,000 divorced Alabamians, including the parents of more than one million children under the age of eighteen, with nearly as many unmarried couples (in 2010 there were more than 25,000 unwed births) with children separating; and

WHEREAS, with awareness comes education and understanding, and the power to stop the abuse of innocent children caught in the crossfire of the people they love; dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another; and

WHEREAS, Love does no harm to its neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law. This year organizers are asking everyone to take 10 minutes out of their day at noon on April 25th, anywhere in the state, and blow soap bubbles representing love.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Gillespie, Jr., Mayor of the City of Prattville, Alabama do hereby proclaim April 22-28, 2012 as,

PARENTAL ALIENATION PREVENTION WEEK

And April 25, 2012 as

PARENTAL ALIENATION AWARENESS DAY

in Prattville, AL.

Given Under My Hand and the Seal of the City of Prattville on the 22ND day of April, 2012.

Mayor Bill Gillespie, Jr.