CHATHAM COUNTY 2010 HUMAN RELATIONS MONTH PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Chatham County owes its appreciation to all the citizens who have contributed, and continue to contribute, to the advancement of mutual understanding, fairness, justice and equal opportunity for all; and

WHEREAS, we seek to promote and maintain a spirit of goodwill, tolerance, and mutual respect among individuals, groups, races and persons of differing social and economic status and religious beliefs; and

WHEREAS, through the Human Relations Commission, our mission is to actively promote amicable relations and mutual respect among all groups within Chatham County and to discourage all manner and manifestation of discriminatory practices toward such groups, thus enhancing the general welfare of this community; and

WHEREAS, our goal is to facilitate the prevention and/or resolution of problems in areas affecting the human relations of all citizens residing, working, or trading in Chatham County; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that our residents are protected from discrimination by state laws including, but not limited to, the State Fair Housing Act, an Interference with Civil Rights Act, and a Persons with Disabilities Protection Act, as well as a wide range of federal laws; and

WHEREAS, the Constitution of North Carolina, Article I, Section 1, reads, "We hold it to be self-evident that all persons are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, the enjoyment of the fruits of their own labor, and the pursuit of happiness"; and

WHEREAS, by proclamation in October 2009, the Board of Commissioners declared February 2010 as Margie E. Ellison Human Relations Month to honor the memory and to pay tribute to one of our most respected community activists and a founder of the Human Relations Commission;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chatham County Board of Commissioners hereby joins all of North Carolina in acknowledging February 2010 as Human Relations Month and, more specifically, as Margie E. Ellison Human Relations Month in Chatham County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that that the Chatham County Board of Commissioners encourages its citizens and educators to participate in activities to celebrate the contributions of Margie Ellison and to highlight concepts within the field of human relations.

Signed and sealed this 1^{st} day of February, 2010,

Sally Kost, Chair

Sandra B. Sublett, CMC, NCCCC, Clerk to the Board

Chatham County Board of Commissioners