

August 13, 2012  
Mayor Pam Hartwell-Herrero  
City Hall  
Fairfax, California

Ref: Prostate Cancer Proclamation

Dear Mayor,

September is National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. Prostate Cancer is the most diagnosed cancer in men, second only to skin cancer. After lung cancer, prostate cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in men. Every 15 minutes, 24/7, an American man dies from prostate cancer.

I would like again this year to request that the Fairfax City Council join the White House, U.S. Senate, the California Senate and Assembly and many other state and local government bodies by issuing your Proclamation in recognition of this national event. I have provided two attachments regarding the proposed Proclamation.

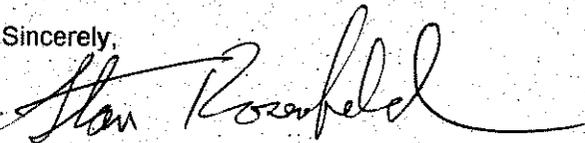
The first attachment is our proposed Prostate Cancer Proclamation. This one page attachment is in MS Word 97-2003 format. Therefore, it is easy to copy, paste, and edit onto your own Proclamation form. The attached Proclamation is a suggested document. Please feel free to edit it to meet your requirements.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> attachment is our 14-page document providing all of the background material and justification for each statement in our proposed Proclamation. All of the prostate cancer information in this report is from the American Cancer Society's documents Cancer Facts & Figures 2012.

We would appreciate receiving a Proclamation in recognition of September as National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month at your next meeting. Please contact me if you have any questions or comments about our request for this Proclamation.

Thank you for considering my request.

Sincerely,



Stan Rosenfeld, Board Member  
California Prostate Cancer Coalition  
12 Rally Court  
Fairfax, CA 94930  
415 459-4668  
[Vegstan2@ix.netcom.com](mailto:Vegstan2@ix.netcom.com)

attach: Proposed Proclamation  
Proclamation Report

Cc: John Reed  
Larry Bragman  
Ryan O'Neil  
David Weinsoff

AGENDA ITEM # 13

## Proposed Proclamation

### Prostate Cancer Awareness Month – September 2012

#### Discussion

The purpose of this report is to assist issuing a Proclamation designating September 2012 as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. In this report, the word "Resolution" may be substituted for the word "Proclamation" as required by the issuing government body. The proposed Proclamation on page 3 is in keeping with the national historical practice of recognizing the month of September as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month.

Each year, the President of the United States, The United States Senate, and the Governors of many States issue Proclamations declaring September as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. Many counties and cities across the country also recognize Prostate Cancer Awareness Month in September by issuing their own Proclamations.

Today there are more than 2.5 million men alive in the USA with a history of prostate cancer. Prostate cancer is the most diagnosed cancer in men today, second only to skin cancer. After lung cancer, prostate cancer is also the number one cause of cancer death in men. The American Cancer Society estimates that 1 in 6 men will develop prostate cancer in their lifetime. Men have a 33% higher rate of developing prostate cancer than women have of developing breast cancer. In the average American family, the husband is more at risk of developing prostate cancer than the wife is of developing breast cancer. In the USA, men also have a higher death rate from prostate cancer than women have from breast cancer. Every 18 minutes, 24/7, an American man dies from prostate cancer. The early stages of prostate cancer usually show no symptoms and there are no self-tests. Early detection is the key to prostate cancer survival. The 5-year survival rate for prostate cancer is 100% if the disease is treated early. The 5-year survival rate drops to 29% if the cancer has metastasized.

In California, prostate cancer is the most common form of cancer among men in almost all race/ethnic groups. More men are diagnosed with prostate cancer in California than any other state. California also has the highest number of deaths from this disease. It is estimated that this year in the state, 20,190 men will be diagnosed and 3,085 men will die from this disease.

The proposed Proclamation on the next page was prepared using the references listed in this report. All of the references in this report are from 2012 American Cancer Society sources. There is a page number in parenthesis after each WHEREAS. This page number refers to the location in this report for the source of the WHEREAS. Information on each reference page has been underlined to assist the reader identify the source for each WHEREAS.

Copies of last year's Prostate Cancer Awareness Proclamations from the White House, US Senate, and California Senate and Assembly, are provided at the end of this report for the reader to review the format and phrasing used in other Proclamations.

# *PROCLAMATION*

## **A PROCLAMATION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFAX DECLARING SEPTEMBER 2012 AS PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS MONTH**

This is a Proclamation to designate September 2012 as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month.

WHEREAS, prostate cancer is the most frequently diagnosed cancer in men aside from skin cancer, and the second leading cause of cancer death in men aside from lung cancer; and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society estimates there will be 241,740 new cases of prostate cancer in the USA in 2012, resulting in an estimated 28,170 deaths, and it is estimate 1 in 6 men will develop this disease in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, in California, prostate cancer is the most common cancer among men in almost all race and ethnic groups and African-American men are over 56% more likely to develop this disease than non-Hispanic white men and over 78% more likely than Hispanic men; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated 20,195 men in California will be diagnosed with prostate cancer this year and it is estimated 3,085 California men will die from this disease; and

WHEREAS, the survival rate approaches 100% when prostate cancer is diagnosed and treated early, but drops to 29% when it spreads to the other parts of the body; and

WHEREAS, early prostate cancer usually has no symptoms and familial predisposition may be responsible for 5% to 10% of the disease cases; and

WHEREAS, recent studies suggest that a diet high in processed meat or dairy foods may be a risk factor, and obesity appears to increase risk of aggressive prostate cancer; and

WHEREAS, obesity and smoking are associated with an increased risk of dying from prostate cancer; and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society recommends that all men should be given sufficient information about the benefits and limitations of testing and early detection to allow them to make a decision based on their personal values and preferences; and

WHEREAS, the Fairfax City Council joins communities across our nation to increase the awareness about the importance for men to make an informed decision with their health care provider about early detection and testing for prostate cancer, and now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Fairfax City Council designates September 2012 as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY PROCLAIMED that September, 2012, is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month in the Town of Fairfax.

MAYOR HARTWELL-HERRERO