Proclamation

WHEREAS, recent changes to the Florida Statutes now allow the Florida Department of Children and Families to broadly share child fatality information, which is useful in reducing, informing and educating communities about causes of child deaths; and

WHEREAS, *#saferby4* was established to raise awareness, assist, inform and educate families about actions and steps to prevent child fatalities; and

WHEREAS, over 200 child deaths have been reported to the Department of Children and Families in Broward County over the last five years; an average of once every ten days; and

WHEREAS, nearly half of all child fatalities reported to the Department of Children and Families resulted from drowning, and for infants under the age of one year the most prevalent cause was accidental suffocation or strangulation from an unsafe sleep environment; and

WHEREAS, 77% of the Broward County children who died in the last five years were ages 3 and under; and

WHEREAS, deaths from drowning and unsafe sleep are preventable through information and education; and

WHEREAS, as part of the overall prevention strategy, the City of Margate is taking the pledge to become a *#saferby4* community in Broward County.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Joanne Simone, Mayor of the City of Margate, do hereby proclaim February 9, 2015, as

#saferby4 Day

in the City of Margate.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the City of Margate to be affixed this 4th day of February 2015.

JOANNE SIMONE, MAYOR

Vice Mayor Tommy Ruzzano, Commissioner Joyce W. Bryan, Commissioner Lesa Peerman, Commissioner Frank B. Talerico