

Office of the Mayor
City of Fayetteville
Proclamation



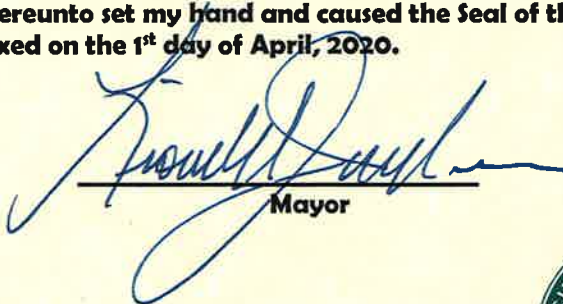
- WHEREAS:** every person is endowed with human dignity and value, redemption and second chances are American values and an estimated 70 million Americans have a criminal record, and
- WHEREAS:** individuals returning from prison and those who have paid their debt after committing a crime face significant barriers, also known as collateral consequences, and
- WHEREAS:** individuals with a criminal history often struggle to find housing, employment or education, regain voting rights, volunteer in their community, and pay for significant debt that arises as a result of their conviction and incarceration, and
- WHEREAS:** youth face more than one thousand collateral consequences affecting their high school and higher education and these barriers can contribute to recidivism, which increases victimization and decreases public safety, and
- WHEREAS:** the stigma and legal barriers associated with a criminal record results in lost human capital and lost economic output for the United States, and
- WHEREAS:** the anniversary of the death of Charles Colson, who used his second chance following his incarceration for a Watergate-related crime to found Prison Fellowship, the nation's largest outreach to prisoners and their families, falls on April 21, 2012, and
- WHEREAS:** a robust coalition of businesses, congregations, and other organizations across the country has celebrated Second Chance Month since April 2017 through prayer walks, Second Chance Sunday services, briefings, social media campaigns, advocacy, press, Second Chance 5ks, and other events and activities, and
- WHEREAS:** the designation of April as Second Chance Month would contribute to increased public awareness about the need for closure for those who have paid their debt, and opportunities for individuals, employers, congregations, and communities to extend second chances.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Lioneld Jordan, Mayor of the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas do hereby proclaim April 2020 as

"Second Chance Month"

in Fayetteville, Arkansas.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas to be affixed on the 1st day of April, 2020.



Mayor

Attest:



City Clerk

