REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

ITEM NO. 15.

DATE OF MEETING: June 4, 2012

REQUESTED BY: Dr. Reta M. Shiver, Director, Department of Social Services

SHORT TITLE: Proclamation by the Pender County Board of Commissioners: Elder Abuse Awareness Month: June, 2012

BACKGROUND: During the month of June 2012, Pender County Department of Social Services will be holding a series of activities to heighten community awareness of Elder Abuse.

SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED: Review and approve the attached proclamation.

COUNTY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

Respectfully recommend approval.

Initial

RESOLUTION

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Pender County Board of Commissioners that:

the attached proclamation to approve June, 2012 as Elder Abuse Awareness Month is hereby approved. The Chairman/County Manager is authorized to execute any/all documents necessary to implement this resolution.

AMENDMENTS:

MOVED_____ SECONDED_____

APPROVED_____ DENIED_____UNANIMOUS

YEA VOTES: Brown_____Tate_____ Rivenbark _____ Ward_____Williams ___

_____ 6/4/2012
George R. Brown, Chairman Date

_____ 6/4/2012
ATTEST Date

Elder Abuse Awareness Proclamation

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WHEREAS, Pender County joins the State and Nation in recognizing Elder Abuse exists in our communities; and

WHEREAS, national and international research indicate that abuse, neglect and exploitation of vulnerable and older adults are grossly underreported; and

WHEREAS, Pender County's vulnerable and older adults of all socio-economic, racial, and ethnic backgrounds may be targets of abuse, neglect or exploitation which occurs in families, long term care facilities and communities; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina enacted the nation's first elder abuse law in 1973, aimed at protecting older adults and vulnerable adults ages eighteen and older, and recognizes the need for a comprehensive system of protection; and

WHEREAS, between 2010 and 2011 North Carolina ranked 10th in the nation with the fastest growth in population for ages 65 and over; and

WHEREAS, in fiscal year 2011, more than 1200 elderly or vulnerable adults ages eighteen and older were kept safe by Social Workers in Pender County; and

WHEREAS, Pender County Department of Social Services and Pender Adult Services partner with area agencies on aging, to increase awareness about elder abuse through its Long Term Ombudsman Program and the State Attorney General's Office to assist victims of telemarketing scams; and

WHEREAS, protecting Pender County's vulnerable and older adults is a community responsibility and it is imperative that communities collaborate to help reduce and prevent abuse, neglect, and exploitation; and

WHEREAS, by 2030, Pender County is projected to have more citizens age 60 and older than citizens age 17 and under, and 1 in 4 North Carolinians will be age
60 and older.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE PENDER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, do hereby proclaim the month of June as "ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH" and encourage our citizens to participate in community efforts to support and improve the safety and well-being of vulnerable and older adults and secure their right to live free of abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

This 4th day of June, 2012.

_____,
George R. Brown, Jr., Chairman

ATTEST:

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Dr. Michael N. "Mickey" Duvall, clerk to the Board
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