

County of Santa Rosa

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the theme for 2011 Arson Awareness Week is Working Together to Extinguish Serial Arson; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Fire Administration reports that there are an estimated 210,300 intentionally set fires each year resulting in approximately 375 deaths and 1,300 injuries; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives reports that from 2009-2010, there were 88 incidents reported as being associated with serial arson, with an aggregate monetary loss of \$4.8 million; and

WHEREAS, the price that America pays for arson is severe. In 2007, three firefighters died on scene or during response to intentional fires, and 6,100 firefighters were injured at the scene of intentional fires. In addition to needless injury and death, an estimated 1 billion dollars in direct property loss occurs annually; and

WHEREAS, public awareness is one of the specific responsibilities of the U.S. Fire Administration; and

WHEREAS, a community Arson Watch Program can put the “neighbor” back into neighborhood by creating a sense of cooperation. It brings the fire service, law enforcement and citizens together to reduce the crime of arson.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Rosa County does hereby proclaim the week of May 1, 2011 as

NATIONAL ARSON AWARENESS WEEK

throughout the county to heighten public awareness, safeguard communities and urge all to protect their homes and families by heeding the important safety messages of National Arson Awareness Week.



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA**

BY: _____
Lane Lynchard, Chairman