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CITY OF ELIZABETH CITY

PROCLAMATION SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY NOVEMBER 30, 2013

WHEREAS, the City of Elizabeth City celebrates our local small businesses and the contribution they make to our local economy and community; and

WHEREAS, according to the United States Small Business Administration, there are currently 28 million small businesses in the United States, which represents more than 99 percent of American companies, creating two-thirds of the net new jobs, and generating half of the private gross domestic product; and

WHEREAS, small businesses employ one half of the employees in the private sector in the United States; and

WHEREAS, 89 percent of consumers in the United States agree that small businesses contribute positively to the local community by supplying jobs and generating tax revenue; and

WHEREAS, 86 percent of consumers in the United States have small businesses in their community that the consumers would miss if the small businesses closed; and

WHEREAS, 93 percent of consumers in the United States agree that it is important for people to support the small businesses that they value in their community; and

WHEREAS, 90 percent of consumers in the United States are willing to pledge support for a "buy local" movement; and

WHEREAS, advocacy groups and public and private organizations across the country have endorsed the Saturday after Thanksgiving as Small Business Saturday; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of Elizabeth City supports our local businesses that create jobs, boost our local economy and preserve our neighborhoods.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Joseph W. Peel, Mayor of the City of Elizabeth City, NC do hereby proclaim November 30, 2013 as **SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY** and urge the residents of our community, and communities across the country, to support small businesses and merchants on Small Business Saturday and throughout the year.

PROCLAIMED this the 25th day of November 2013.

Joseph W. Peel
Mayor

Vivian D. White, NCCMC
Deputy City Clerk