COMMENDATION

BY THE MAYOR OF PRATTVILLE, ALABAMA

WHEREAS, *our nation has fought and continues to fight battles around the world. Let us solemnly remember the sacrifices of all those who fought so valiantly, on the seas, in the air and on the foreign shores to preserve our heritage of freedom, and let us consecrate ourselves to the task of promoting and enduring peace so that their efforts shall not have been in vain; and*

WHEREAS, *we have benefited from the contributions of those willing to depart the comforts of home to answer the call of duty and our citizens celebrate the service and sacrifice of these servicemen and women as we pay special tribute to these citizen; and*

WHEREAS, *the freedoms we enjoy as Americans have been purchased and maintained at a high price throughout our history; and*

WHEREAS, *we owe a great debt of gratitude to those who have served in defense of this nation; and*

WHEREAS, *the people and Mayor of Prattville wish that the sacrifice of so many in Iraq never be forgotten.*

NOW THEREFORE, *I, Bill Gillespie, Jr., Mayor of the City of Prattville, Alabama, do hereby commend*

Major Gerald Starnes

for his sacrifice and service during his deployment to Iraq with the Alabama National Guard's 231st MP Battalion training Iraq forces. Jerry is a living testimony to remind us what is important and what it means to be a hero.

Given Under My Hand and the Seal of the City of Prattville on the 7th day of February 2012.

Mayor Bill Gillespie, Jr.