

PROCLAMATION

*WHEREAS, Alienating behaviors are often found in high conflict divorce and custody situations; and*

*WHEREAS, Speaking negatively about a parent to or in front of a child; interfering with communication and visitation; and discussing inappropriate information with a child, such as details of the separation, court proceedings, or financial matters, are behaviors that can not only destroy the bond between a loving parent and child, but can cause a child mental and emotional harm; and*

*WHEREAS, Parental alienation takes advantage of the impressionable and dependant nature of children; and*

*WHEREAS, Parental alienation deprives children of their right to love and be loved by both parents; and*

*WHEREAS, Parental alienation is considered harmful to children, as the alienating tactics are confusing, frightening and rob children of their sense of security; and*

*WHEREAS, Professionals agree that the problem of parental alienation is damaging to children and can affect them into adulthood, with tragic consequences; and*

*WHEREAS, There were more than 20,000 divorced Alabamians, almost 25,000 unwed births in 2011, and approximately 40,000 children in Alabama subjected to child custody determination; and*

*WHEREAS, With awareness come education and understanding, and the power to stop the abuse of innocent children caught in the crossfire of the people they love, and*

*WHEREAS, This year organizers are doing something special by asking everyone to take 10 minutes out of their day at noon on April 25<sup>th</sup>, anywhere in the state, and blow soap bubbles representing love.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Doug Murphree, Mayor of Sylacauga, do hereby proclaim April 21 through April 28, 2013, as PARENTAL ALIENATION PREVENTION WEEK and April 25, 2013, as PARENTAL ALIENATION AWARENESS DAY.*

*Signed and sealed, this 5<sup>th</sup> day of March in the year Two Thousand and Thirteen.*



*Doug Murphree*  
Doug Murphree, Mayor  
City of Sylacauga