

**DESIGNATION OF MARCH AS
PROBLEM GAMBLING AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, The Town of Belleair has designated March as Problem Gambling Awareness Month to demonstrate its support in addressing problem gambling and to support the initiative of Florida Council on Compulsive Gambling to bring awareness to the issues surrounding problem gambling in our community; and recognizes that this is a public health issue which impacts family, friends, and businesses with significant societal and economic costs, affecting more than one million Floridians of all ages, races, and ethnic backgrounds in all communities; and

WHEREAS, each problem gambler directly affects 8-10 other individuals with negative consequences to personal and social relationships of the immediate family; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Council on Compulsive Gambling's public awareness campaign provides an opportunity to educate the public, policymakers, educators, businesses, mental health, criminal justice professionals, and others, about the adverse effects of gambling, its social, legal, financial, and emotional impacts, as well as available treatment; and

WHEREAS, problem gambling is treatable for those who seek help, which minimizes the harm to Floridians and to the state as a whole; and

WHEREAS, numerous individuals, professionals, and organizations who are dedicated to assisting families in need can participate in preventing problem gambling by promoting the statewide 24-hour HelpLine, 888-ADMIT-IT, and by making assessments and treatment readily available; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GARY H. KATICA, Mayor of the Town of Belleair, do hereby proclaim the month of March as

PROBLEM GAMBLING AWARENESS MONTH

*GIVEN under our hand and the seal of the
TOWN OF BELLEAIR, FLORIDA, this 21st
day of FEBRUARY, A.D., 2017.*

GARY H. KATICA, MAYOR