



Proclamation

- Whereas:** The government of Virginia Beach, Virginia believes that small businesses are the backbone of our economy and the glue that holds communities together; and
- Whereas:** According to the United States Small Business Administration, there are currently 30.2 million small businesses in the United States - they represent more than 99.7 percent of all businesses with employees in the United States, and are responsible for 65.9 percent of net new jobs created from 2000 to 20017; and
- Whereas:** Small businesses employ 47.5 percent of the employees in the private sector in the United States; and
- Whereas:** Ninety percent of consumers in the United States agree that Small Business Saturday contribute positively to the local community by supplying jobs and generating tax revenue; and
- Whereas:** Seventy-three percent of consumers who reportedly 'Shopped Small' at independently-owned retailers and restaurants on Small Business Saturday did so with friends or family; and
- Whereas:** The most reported reason for 64 percent of consumers, who were aware of the day, to shop and dine at small, independently-owned businesses was to support their community; and
- Whereas:** Virginia Beach, Virginia supports our local businesses that create jobs, boost our local economy and preserve our neighborhoods and communities; and
- Whereas:** Advocacy groups and public and private organizations across the country have endorsed the Saturday after Thanksgiving as Small Business Saturday.

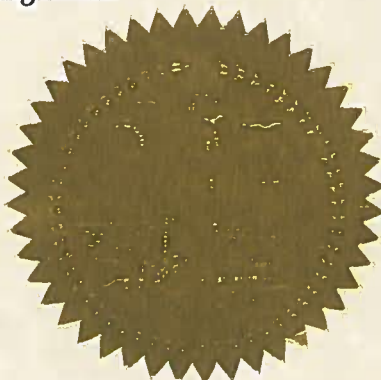
Now, Therefore, I, Louis R. Jones, Mayor of the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia, do hereby Proclaim:

November 24 2018

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.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia, to be affixed this Twenty-fourth day of November, Two Thousand Eighteen.



Louis R. Jones
Mayor