

City of Cedar Rapids
Iowa

Proclamation

Whereas, during this century millions of children, women and men have been victims of unimaginable atrocities that deeply shock the conscience of humanity; and

Whereas, grave crimes such as genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes threaten the peace, security and well being of the world; and

Whereas, those responsible for such crimes have largely gone unpunished throughout history and efforts to hold those responsible for such crimes will contribute to prevent and serve as a catalyst for ending the armed conflicts in which such crimes are often committed; and

Whereas, on July 17, 1998, governments from throughout the world came together in Rome, Italy, to establish the International Criminal Court (ICC), the world's first permanent court to prosecute individuals responsible for genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity, when the courts of the countries in which these crimes were committed are unable or unwilling to do so; and

Whereas, the ICC is today investigating those responsible for atrocities perpetrated in Northern Uganda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Central African Republic, and Sudan, which together represent some of the most protracted, violent conflicts in the world.

Now Therefore, I, Kay Halloran, Mayor of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, do hereby proclaim July 17, 2008:

“International Justice Day”

in Cedar Rapids and urge all residents to join in observance of the tenth anniversary of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

Kay Halloran
4 June 2008
Date

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