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The Justice Coalition began in 1995 because one man's priorities were changed. Ted Hires was the average businessman working 60 to 80 hours a week and looking out for himself until that day when he and his staff were held at gunpoint and robbed. Being a victim of crime, Ted found the criminal justice system worked harder for the criminal than the victim. As a result of Ted's experience, he formed a (501C3) non-profit organization, the Justice Coalition, and is making an effort to change the Fourth Judicial court system for the better.

Since 1995, the Justice Coalition has been fighting crime every step of the way. Fugitives captured are through a partnership with local media and law enforcement agencies.

The Justice Coalition's

Victims' Advocate

A free newspaper supporting victims' rights published monthly by The Justice Coalition. The opinions of contributing writers are not necessarily those of the Justice Coalition's Victims' Advocate or the Justice Coalition. The Justice Coalition's Victims' Advocate welcomes both editorial and photographic submission, but they cannot be returned. Please allow six weeks for a response to submitted works. Calendar information is welcome but must be submitted one month in advance of the event.

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All correspondence to the Justice Coalition's Victims' Advocate should be sent to:

Justice Coalition's Victims' Advocate

1935 Lane Ave., South, Suite 1 • Jacksonville, Florida 32210

Phone: (904) 783-6312 • Fax: (904) 783-4172

THE JUSTICE COALITION'S OBJECTIVES

- To be available for innocent victims of violent crime
- To educate the general public on criminal justice issues
- To be pro-active in the fight against crime

Advertising Deadline

The deadline for advertising copy for the **March 2010 Edition** of the JUSTICE COALITION'S VICTIMS' ADVOCATE is **February 10, 2010.**

THE SECRET WORD GAME

CONGRATULATIONS TO JANUARY'S WINNER, MARION DARBY. THANKS FOR PLAYING.

Hidden in the text of the Victims' Advocate is the **SECRET WORD** for the month of **February**. The rules are simple:

1. Find the word.
2. Telephone the Justice Coalition office 783-6312.
3. The first person who telephones the correct Secret Word wins a Gift Certificate to Sonny's Real Pit Barbeque Restaurant.
4. You can only win once in a twelve month period.

SO START SEARCHING!

Exclusions: no persons employed by the Justice Coalition, Sonny's, nor their families are eligible.



Ask the Mayor

by Mayor John Peyton

Last month, I delivered Meals on Wheels to senior citizens, served lunch at the Clara White Mission and read to children at a local early learning center. I participated in these community service activities as part of Jacksonville's kickoff as a participant in the Cities of Service initiative. This effort was launched by a coalition of mayors from cities large and small, who work together to harness and focus the energies of their citizens.

As a founding member of the Cities of Service coalition, I was proud to join Mayor Michael Bloomberg in New York City last September to kick off this comprehensive approach to serving our communities. I think it is imperative that Jacksonville be a leader in this national initiative, striving to be a city that serves.

Being a City of Service doesn't just mean that our citizens donate to those without basic necessities. This initiative strikes at the very

Jacksonville – a participant in Cities of Service

heart of the toughest problems facing communities today. It provides opportunities for residents to give of their time — a vital resource — by engaging in activities like mentoring a child, serving lunches, collecting donations for area shelters and advocacy. These kinds of volunteer activities can make a huge impact in the areas of poverty, crime, homelessness and illiteracy. And by tackling both immediate needs and those that can lead to problems in the future, this initiative involves partners throughout the community in improving the lives of present and future generations.

Initiated by Congress in 1994, the holiday celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was transformed into a nationwide call to action, in recognition of his advocacy for helping others and in an effort to increase community service and cohesion. With that same focus, the City of Jacksonville launched its participation in the Cities of Service initiative to coincide with the King Day of Service on January 18.

Many area nonprofits and

community service organizations helped kick off this program by participating in existing and new community service activities last month. And I strongly encourage individuals and civic groups to continue similar activities throughout the year.

The Jacksonville community has a long and proud history of joining together for the common good. Just in recent memory, Touchdown Jacksonville, Revive the Pride and *The Jacksonville Journey* anti-crime initiative are proof of that. Cities of Service provides another opportunity to improve the quality of life for Jacksonville residents by working together. And, I want to hear about and track all that our community members are doing to help each other out. If you schedule a Cities of Service activity, contact us at publicinformation@coj.net.

Helping out others in our community — striving to make it better all the time - is a vital part of what makes Jacksonville a great place to live, work and raise a family. I encourage all of you to identify ways in which you can serve others in the days ahead.

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