WHEREAS, every person is endowed with human dignity and value; and

WHEREAS, redemption and second chances are important in American society; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 65 million Americans have a criminal record, with 10,111 persons currently incarcerated in Minnesota and 16,158 persons on probation; and

WHEREAS, individuals who have completed a prison term often return from imprisonment to face collateral consequences of conviction (a “second prison”) such as an inability to regain voting rights, volunteer in their community, or find housing, employment or education; and

WHEREAS, the estimated number of legal, collateral consequences of a criminal conviction in Minnesota is 586 and these barriers can contribute to recidivism, which increases victimization and decreases public safety; and

WHEREAS, the stigma and legal barriers result in lost human capital and lost economic output for the United States; and

WHEREAS, Prison Fellowship, the Minnesota Department of Corrections, Concordia University St. Paul, MN Second Chance Coalition, Melrose Hill Movies, MN Adult and Teen Challenge, Charis Prison Ministry, Steve Rummier Hope Foundation, and Anderson Race Management will sponsor the annual Second Chances 5k on April 22, 2018 in St. Paul so that members of the community may run or walk in honor of second chances.

Now, Therefore, I, Melvin Carter, Mayor of the City of Saint Paul, do hereby proclaim the month of April to be:

Second Chance Month

in the City of Saint Paul

In Witness Whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Saint Paul to be affixed the Month of April in the Year Two Thousand Eighteen.

Melvin Carter, Mayor