



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Mesothelioma is an aggressive, asbestos-related cancer that affects the linings of the lungs, abdomen, heart or other organs; and

WHEREAS, the heavy use of asbestos in manufacturing, industry and construction has been recognized as “the worst occupational health disaster in U.S. history”; and

WHEREAS, asbestos was used in the construction of virtually all office buildings, public schools, and homes built before 1975; and

WHEREAS, a high percentage of all mesothelioma victims were exposed to asbestos on naval ships and in shipyards, including in Charleston, South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, this is now believed to include many of the firefighters, police officers, and rescue workers from Ground Zero on 9/11/01; and

WHEREAS, exposure to asbestos for as little as one month can result in mesothelioma 30 years later;

WHEREAS, because of occupational, Navy-service related, household, or even incidental exposures and the very long latency of the disease, tens of millions of Americans are now at risk for developing mesothelioma; and

WHEREAS, for decades, the need for research to develop effective treatments for mesothelioma was overlooked; and

WHEREAS, as a result of this neglect, treatments available today generally have a limited effect and most patients die within just 12 to 15 months of diagnosis;

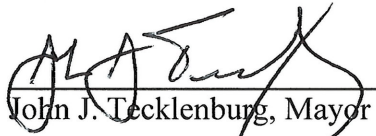
WHEREAS, the establishment of Mesothelioma Awareness Day is intended to raise public awareness of the disease and of the need to develop effective treatments for it.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John J. Tecklenburg, Mayor of the City of Charleston, do hereby proclaim September 26, 2020 as:

MESOTHELIOMA AWARENESS DAY

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I do hereby set my hand, and cause the seal of Charleston to be affixed, this 15th day of September in the year of 2020.




John J. Tecklenburg, Mayor