

*City of Fort Lauderdale*  
*Honored Founder*

**PROCLAMATION HONORING  
STANFORD K. SMOKER  
AS HONORED FOUNDER FOR 2015**

- WHEREAS,** Stanford K. Smoker arrived in Fort Lauderdale with his family in 1956 and began an auspicious career in construction materials, which eventually, propelled him to a position as a prominent developer with a vision for the City's downtown; and
- WHEREAS,** During a time when residents were leaving downtown Fort Lauderdale for sprawling properties and suburban communities, Stanford Smoker recognized the potential of the New River and envisioned it as the heart of a thriving urban metropolis; and
- WHEREAS,** Stanford Smoker gradually acquired 10 acres of property along the New River, and in the early 1970s, announced plans for downtown Fort Lauderdale's first high-rise apartments with a sky bridge that would connect residential towers on the north and south sides of the water; and
- WHEREAS,** His friendship with pioneers Ivy Stranahan and Annie Beck instilled in Stanford Smoker the importance of safeguarding our local heritage and compelled him to save the historic 1907 King-Cromartie House and the Annie Beck House, as well as countless mature trees in the area; and
- WHEREAS,** Although County development led to changes to his high-rise plans decades ago, many of the parcels Stanford Smoker acquired along the New River are graced by luxurious modern buildings today, including the Las Olas Grand, the Watergarden, and Nu River Landing, while the scenic shaded green space on the south side of the New River has been named Smoker Family Park in his honor; and
- WHEREAS,** Stanford viewed Fort Lauderdale as more than just a place to establish his business and raise his family, as reflected through his extensive civic involvement in numerous organizations committed to cultivating harmony and prosperity throughout our community; and
- WHEREAS,** Stanford Smoker has dutifully served as a Trustee of the Fort Lauderdale Historical Society; Vice President of Tourism and New Industries and Foreign Trade for the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce; President of the Fort Lauderdale Executives Association; and was recognized as a "Modern Pioneer" by the Broward County Historical Commission; and
- WHEREAS,** Stanford Smoker is to be commended for his vision, as well as the time and resources that he selflessly invested in Fort Lauderdale, thereby creating a desirable City and a lasting legacy for future generations; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA:**

- Section 1:** That Stanford K. Smoker is hereby selected and honored as Honored Founder of the City of Fort Lauderdale for 2015 in recognition of his many accomplishments and valuable contributions to the City of Fort Lauderdale and that the City Commission of the City of Fort Lauderdale hereby publicly recognizes and acknowledges these achievements and contributions and does hereby express its heartfelt appreciation to Stanford Smoker.
- Section 2:** That a plaque honoring Stanford Smoker as Honored Founder of the City of Fort Lauderdale for 2015 shall be placed in the lobby of Fort Lauderdale City Hall.
- Section 3:** That a parchment copy of this Proclamation shall be furnished by the City Clerk to Stanford Smoker as a further token of the sincere gratitude and appreciation of the City of Fort Lauderdale.
- DATED this,** the 3rd day of November, 2015.

  
Mayor John P. "Jack" Seiler

