Whereas, the Honorable Joanne M. Smith has served Ramsey County with unmatched distinction since 1979, first as an assistant public defender and then as a district court judge from November 1983 through October 2, 2015; and

Whereas, Judge Smith was the first female chief judge to serve in any judicial district in Minnesota; and

Whereas, Judge Smith served as the Chief Judge of the Minnesota Supreme Court Civil Commitment Appeal Panel; and

Whereas, Judge Smith chaired the Minnesota Supreme Court Chemical Dependency Task Force from 2005-2007 and was also a longstanding member of the Supreme Court’s Drug Court Initiative Advisory Committee; and

Whereas, Judge Smith was the founding judge for Ramsey County’s Juvenile Drug Court and the Adult Substance Abuse Court which has since become a model for the nation; and

Whereas, Judge Smith was inducted into the National Association of Drug Court Professionals Hall of Fame in 2012 for her leadership, innovation and her dedication to problem-solving courts; and

Whereas, Judge Smith has consistently displayed an unparalleled commitment to improving the quality of justice for residents throughout Ramsey County; and

Whereas, Judge Smith’s passion for justice is matched only by her outstanding judicial temperament and her dedication to public service in this community for the last thirty-six years.

Now, Therefore, I, Christopher B. Coleman, Mayor of the City of Saint Paul, do hereby proclaim Thursday, October 01, 2015, to be:

Honorable Joanne M. Smith Day

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 this First Day of October in the Year Two Thousand Fifteen.

Christopher B. Coleman, Mayor