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January 25, 2013

Leif Svanström M.D., Ph.D.,B.A.
Professor Emeritus
Chair,
WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion
Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden

Re: Official Launch of Safe Community Programs

Dear Prof. Leif Svanström,

Our city is determined to build a safe community where we can all live in safety and work to protect their own community, lifestyles and lives, and to pass on this city to the following generations. With this vision, the City of Kagoshima established the Ordinance for Building a Safe & Secure Community in October 2005, and has carried out various efforts. In order to further improve these efforts, I would like to declare on behalf of the residents of Kagoshima City that we formally commit ourselves to work on the Safe Community programs.

In recent years, our country has been subject to various disasters and accidents that took away precious lives including, for example, the Great East Japan Earthquake. There have also been frequent torrential rains, fatal traffic accidents involving the elderly and children, and problems like abuse, bullying, and suicide. These have prompted an increased interest in building a safe society among residents of the City, who are also concerned about possible disasters that are anticipated by signs of volcanic activity of Sakurajima.

Under the above circumstances, the City launched the "Regional Protection: Lifetime Safe & Secure Project" by its Fifth General Plan covering 10 years from April 2012. Since then, it has made more efforts to utilize and vitalize various human and natural resources of the region, and has been actively promoting community development by maximizing the special characteristics of Kagoshima.

For achievement to the ideal city image set up by the City, "People, City & Green Nature: Kagoshima City with a sense of affluence built by all citizens", and to establish a safe & secure society that meets global standards, we are determined to work with enthusiasm on the Safe Community initiatives. Your kind support and guidance toward our designation as a member of the International Safe Community Network are sincerely appreciated.

Sincerely yours



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Hiroyuki Mori Mayor Kagoshima City