

Office of the Mayor

Proclamation

WHEREAS the City of Coolidge recognizes the importance of parents talking with their teens about alcohol in order to reduce the risks and dangers posed to teens and communities; and

WHEREAS, high school students who use alcohol or other substances are five times more likely to drop out of school or believe good grades are not important; and

WHEREAS, 27 percent of middle school students try alcohol before graduating from 8th grade, significantly increasing the risk that they will develop alcohol problems later in life; and

WHEREAS, teen alcohol use kills 4,700 people each year, more than all other illegal drugs combined; and

WHEREAS, the majority of kids say their parents are their primary influence when it comes to decisions about drinking alcohol; and

WHEREAS, *PowerTalk 21*® day, started by Mothers Against Drunk Driving® (MADD) in 2011, is established on April 21, 2015, to encourage parents and caregivers to embrace their important role in influencing America's youth and their decisions about drinking alcohol; and

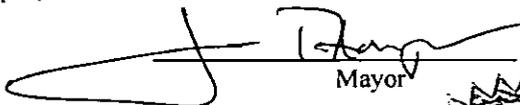
WHEREAS, in 2015, MADD will kick off "21 Days in Support of 21," beginning on April 1st and culminating on *PowerTalk 21* on April 21st, as part of *Power of Parents*® program to create a sustained and prolonged conversation about underage drinking among middle school and high school students; and

WHEREAS, to equip parents to talk with their teens about alcohol, MADD Arizona during April 2015, will activate to give parents the tools to effectively talk to their children about alcohol to protect them; and

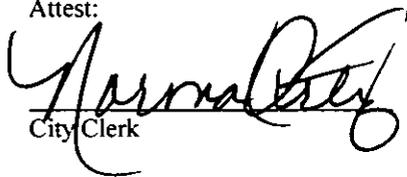
WHEREAS, I urge all citizens to join the local and national efforts to raise awareness of the importance of parents and teens talking together about alcohol to reduce the risks and dangers posed to teens and communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jon Thompson, Mayor of the City of Coolidge, Arizona, Pinal County, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, April 21, 2015 to be: **PowerTalk 21® Day** in Coolidge, Arizona, and call upon the citizens of Coolidge to observe this day by supporting Mothers Against Drunk Driving® in their efforts to raise awareness of the importance of parents and teens talking together about alcohol to reduce the risks and dangers posed to teens and communities.

Dated this 13th day of April, 2015


Mayor

Attest:


City Clerk

