A PROCLAMATION

By His Excellency the Most Honourable Sir PATRICK LINTON ALLEN, Member of the Order of the Nation, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Commander of the Order of Distinction, Governor-General of Jamaica.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the people of Jamaica to pay tribute to those persons whose contributions to the development of Jamaica has been outstanding in a manner that allows our people to show greater appreciation to them and celebrate their contribution in a more meaningful way:

AND WHEREAS the Right Excellent Marcus Mosiah Garvey was an articulate and relentless advocate who during his entire life took on to himself the concerns of the poor, oppressed black people of Jamaica and the world, traveling extensively across several continents in his quest to bring change to their circumstances, while also providing leadership among his people in Jamaica and abroad and promoting black pride and consciousness among the masses of the people, worldwide:

AND WHEREAS the Right Excellent Marcus Mosiah Garvey established several institutions foremost among which was the Universal Negro Improvement Association-African Communities League (UNIA-ACL) and created organizations to represent the cause of African people and enhance their lives and was vilified, victimized, arrested and imprisoned for the cause, as the rulers of the day sought to suppress and silence him:

AND WHEREAS the Right Excellent Marcus Mosiah Garvey has been heralded by black freedom fighters and leaders across the world for his enduring vision of a united Africa and for the concept of "Africa for Africans at home and abroad" and also as the architect of the Pan-Africanist Movement, and is celebrated worldwide for his lifelong mission and sacrifice:

AND WHEREAS the Jamaican Government in 1968 conferred upon the Right Excellent Marcus Mosiah Garvey the Order of National Hero for his outstanding contribution to national development:

AND WHEREAS it is deemed fitting for a day to be set aside for the focusing of attention on the outstanding contribution of the Right Excellent Marcus Mosiah Garvey:

AND WHEREAS on the 13th day of August 2012, in the year of the celebration of Jamaica's 50th Anniversary of Independence and the 125th Anniversary of the Right Excellent Marcus Mosiah Garvey's birth, the Prime Minister of Jamaica, the Most Honourable Portia Simpson Miller, ON, MP, after consultation with the members of the Cabinet, decided that the 17th day of August, of each year, being the anniversary of the birth of the Right Excellent Marcus Mosiah Garvey, is appropriate as the day to be set aside for the focusing of attention on the outstanding contribution of the Right Excellent Marcus Mosiah Garvey but shall not be Public General Holiday:

AND WHEREAS the Prime Minister has so advised:

NOW THEREFORE, I, PATRICK LINTON ALLEN, Member of the Order of the Nation, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Commander of the Order of Distinction, Governor-General of Jamaica, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM AND MAKE KNOWN that the 17th day of August in each year shall be designated as Marcus Garvey Day and shall be so observed.

Given under my hand at King's House this 16th day of August, in the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Twelve.