

ASHTON | HAWWARD

April 6, 2018

The Honorable José Javier Gómez Pardo Alcalde Ayuntamiento de Borobia Soria, Castilla y Leon Kingdom of Spain

Dear Mayor Pardo,

As Mayor of the City of Pensacola, I was delighted to learn of the desire of the citizens of Borobia to establish a Sister City relationship with the City of Pensacola.

Like Borobia, Pensacola has a rich history as America's first settlement, established in 1559 by Don Tristan de Luna y Arellano, who was born in Borobia. Recently, the University of West Florida Archaeology Department identified the archaeological site of the Luna settlement. Our two cities share many significant cultural and historic similarities with Spanish explorers. Their influence is deeply reflected throughout Pensacola with many historic plazas, fort sites, landmarks and streets bearing their names.

Our city highlights its historical presence each year with the Fiesta of Five Flags, the central figure of the celebration is Don Tristan de Luna y Arellano. The Fiesta of Five Flags is one of the oldest and largest festivals in Florida and we are proud to honor the legacy of Don Tristan de Luna y Arellano each year.

I believe that our two cities will benefit greatly from establishing a Sister City Relationship and I look forward to working with the Fiesta of Five Flags and Pensacola Sister Cities International as we formalize a Sister City relationship between Pensacola and Borobia.

Best wishes to you and the citizens of Borobia.

Sincerely,

Ashton J. Hayward, III

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Mayor