



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

WHEREAS: President John F. Kennedy declared the first Peace Officers Memorial Day on May 15, 1962, in honor of “those who, through their courageous deeds, have lost their lives or have become disabled in the performance of duty”; and

WHEREAS: Since December 3, 1874, when the first Minnesota peace officer was reported killed in the line of duty, and as of May 10, 2022, 275 Minnesota law enforcement officers have died in the line of duty. Over the past ten years, 1,627 officers have been killed in the line of duty nationally, averaging 163 deaths per year; and

WHEREAS: The Minnesota Law Enforcement Memorial Association, established in 1974 to honor fallen and injured peace officers who put their lives on the line to protect all Minnesotans, dedicated a memorial at the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport in 1977 before re-creating the memorial on the Minnesota State Capitol grounds in 1995; and

WHEREAS: Today and every day, it is fitting to honor those peace officers who gave their lives to protect ours and to thank more than 10,900 law enforcement officers in Minnesota who serve in 417 law enforcement agencies for their dedication and services to Minnesota communities; and

WHEREAS: The President has designated May 15 of each year as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which it falls as Police Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Monday, May 15, 2023, and May 15-21, 2023, as:

### PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY & POLICE WEEK

in the State of Minnesota, and do hereby order all United States flags and Minnesota flags to be flown at half-staff at all state and federal buildings in the State of Minnesota, from sunrise until sunset on Monday, May 15, 2023, in honor of Peace Officers who have been killed or injured in the line of duty.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May.

GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE