



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: President John F. Kennedy declared the first Peace Officers Memorial day on May 15, 1962, as a tribute to Peace Officers in honor of "those peace officers who, through their courageous deeds, have lost their lives or have become disabled in the performance of duty." This day has been observed in our country annually since; and
- WHEREAS: Since December 3, 1874, when the first Minnesota peace officer was reported killed in the line of duty, and as of May 1, 2017, 278 Minnesota Law Enforcement Officers have died in the line of duty. Nationally an average of 151 officers are killed and over 15,000 injured in the United States each year; and
- WHEREAS: The Minnesota Law Enforcement Memorial Association was established in 1974 to honor fallen and injured peace officers who put their lives on the line for the protection of all Minnesotans, dedicating a memorial at the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport in 1977 before recreating the memorial on the Minnesota State Capitol grounds in 1995; and
- WHEREAS: On this Law Enforcement Memorial Day, the families of Hayfield Chief Douglas Claassen, who died on March 13, 1999 as a result of injuries sustained on April 13, 1977 in the line of duty and DNR Game Warden Marcus Whipps, killed in the line of duty on July 12, 1940, will be dedicating their names on the National Law Enforcement Memorial in Washington D.C.; and
- WHEREAS: Today and everyday it is fitting to honor those Peace Officers who gave of their lives to protect ours, and to thank the over 10,000 Law Enforcement Officers in Minnesota who serve in 446 law enforcement agencies for their dedication and service to Minnesota communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Monday, May 15, 2017, as:

PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY

in the State of Minnesota, and do hereby order all United States flags and Minnesota flags be flown at half-staff at all state and federal buildings in the State of Minnesota, from sunrise until sunset on Monday, May 15, 2017, 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 12th day of May.


GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE