



Proclamation



Police Week and Peace Officers' Memorial Day

WHEREAS, there are approximately 900,000 law enforcement officers serving in communities across the United States, including the dedicated members of the Carrboro Police Department; and

WHEREAS, on April 29, 1786, Sheriff Benjamin Brach of Chesterfield County, Virginia, became the first law enforcement officer to die in the line of duty in the United States; since then, more than 22,000 law enforcement officers in the United States have paid the ultimate price during the performance of their duties, including 578 in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, over 60,000 assaults against law enforcement officers are reported each year, resulting in approximately 17,000 injuries; and

WHEREAS, the 87th Congress passed Public Law 87-726, a Joint Resolution authorizing the president to proclaim May 15th of each year as Peace Officers' Memorial Day, and the calendar week during which May 15th occurs as Police Week; this was signed into law by President John F. Kennedy on October 1, 1962; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Carrboro Police Department play an essential role in safeguarding the rights and freedoms of our residents, they protect the innocent against deception and the weak against oppression, they unceasingly provide a vital public service without which our town would not enjoy the peace and liberty that we so dearly value; and

WHEREAS, despite the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, police officers continue to serve our community, risking their health and their lives every day; and

WHEREAS, it is important that all citizens know and understand the duties and responsibilities of our law enforcement officers, and acknowledge the hazards and sacrifices that are a fundamental aspect of their profession.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor of the Town of Carrboro, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim the week of **May 10-16, 2020** as "**Police Week**" and call upon all organizations and residents to commemorate law enforcement officers, past and present, who have rendered dedicated service to their communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that I proclaim **Friday, May 15, 2020** as "**Peace Officers' Memorial Day**" and call upon all residents of Carrboro to honor those law enforcement officers who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their community or became disabled in their performance of their duty.

This the 11th day of May 2020.



Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor