

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

At Charleston

A PROCLAMATION

By the Governor

WHEREAS, on October 16, 2001, the United States Congress directed, *see* Joint Resolution, Pub. L. No. 107-51, 115 Stat. 267 (Oct. 16, 2001), that the American Flags on all federal office buildings be lowered to half-staff in honor of the annual National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service; and

WHEREAS, firefighters and emergency services personnel play an essential role in the protection of lives and property in our local communities; and

WHEREAS, fire and emergency services personnel are often the first to respond to an emergency, whether it involves a fire, medical emergency, transportation accident, or natural disaster; and

WHEREAS, nationally, an average of 80 firefighters courageously make the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty each year; and

WHEREAS, in spite of these risks, brave fire and emergency services personnel in this State demonstrate heroism each day, willingly placing themselves in harm's way for the benefit of others.

WHEREAS, the people of West Virginia are indebted to the men and women who choose this noble profession, and it is of major importance that we increase our efforts to reduce deaths, injuries, and property losses from fire; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the State of West Virginia are encouraged to honor fire and emergency services personnel, past and present, who, by their faithful and loyal devotion to duties, have rendered invaluable service to our community and its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PATRICK MORRISEY, by virtue of the authority vested in me as the Governor of the State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim May 2-3, 2026, as

NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS WEEKEND

in the Mountain State and in commemoration do hereby **ORDER** that the United States and West Virginia State flags displayed at the Capitol Complex in Charleston, West Virginia be lowered to half-staff beginning at dawn on Saturday, May 2, 2026, and to remain there until sunset on Sunday, May 3, 2026.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the great seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

DONE at the Capitol in the City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the First Day of May, in the Year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Six, and in the One Hundred Sixty-Third Year of the State.



By the Governor

Patrick Morrisey
GOVERNOR

Kris Warner
SECRETARY OF STATE