



State of Missouri

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, Assistant Chief Rick Groves began his law enforcement career as a police officer with the Poplar Bluff Police Department in December, 1982; and

WHEREAS, Rick Groves served faithfully as a Poplar Bluff officer, and joined the Kennett Police Department as a police officer in January, 1985; and

WHEREAS, through hard work, dedication to protecting the people of Kennett, and his leadership abilities, Rick Groves rose through the ranks, eventually achieving the rank of Major and was named Assistant Chief of the Kennett Police Department; and

WHEREAS, on October 16, 2020, Assistant Chief Groves died as a result of COVID-19, after contracting the novel coronavirus as he carried out his duties as a member of the Kennett Police Department; and

WHEREAS, throughout his law enforcement career Assistant Chief Groves distinguished himself with professionalism and an interest in mentoring younger members of law enforcement on the importance of upholding the highest ideals of public service; and

WHEREAS, law enforcement officers courageously and unselfishly strive to ensure the safety and well-being of their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, the people of the State of Missouri are thankful for the brave individuals in law enforcement who consider the welfare of others a personal responsibility and work tirelessly to protect the lives and property of their fellow citizens.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Michael L. Parson, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, as a mark of respect for the line of duty death of

ASSISTANT CHIEF RICK GROVES

and for his bravery and more than 35 years of service to the Kennett Police Department, do hereby order that the flag of the United States and the flag of the State Missouri shall be flown at half-staff at all government buildings in Dunklin County for one full day on October 20, 2020, from sunrise to sunset.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 19th day of October, 2020.



Michael L. Parson
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE