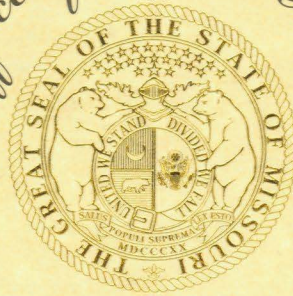


*Office of the Governor*



*State of Missouri*

*Governor's Proclamation*

**WHEREAS**, Firefighter Rodney L. Heard dedicated his life to faithfully and honorably serving his community as a member of the St. Louis Fire Department; and

**WHEREAS**, Firefighter Heard was appointed to the St. Louis Fire Department on March 1, 1999; and

**WHEREAS**, Firefighter Heard was among the many first responders from across Missouri who bravely risked their own health and safety by responding to emergency calls during the novel coronavirus pandemic, which resulted in a state of emergency declaration in Missouri and a federal disaster declaration for all 50 states; and

**WHEREAS**, after a valiant fight, Firefighter Heard died in the line of duty on June 15, 2021, following exposure to coronavirus in the line of duty; and

**WHEREAS**, first responders courageously and selflessly devote their lives to ensuring the safety and well-being of their fellow citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the people of the State of Missouri are thankful for the sacrifices of the brave emergency responders who risk their own lives 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 death of

**FIREFIGHTER RODNEY L. HEARD**

and for his bravery and service to the St. Louis Fire Department and the citizens of St. Louis do hereby order that the flag of the United States and the flag of Missouri shall be flown at half-staff at every fire station in the State of Missouri and at the Fire Fighters Memorial, located in Kingdom City, Missouri, and at all government buildings in the City of St. Louis from sunrise until sunset on June 28, 2021.

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 25<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021.



*Michael L. Parson*

Michael L. Parson  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

*Jay Ashcroft*  
SECRETARY OF STATE