



*State of Missouri*  
*Governor's Proclamation*

**WHEREAS**, the State of Missouri is committed to efficient traffic incident response and management, which reduces the duration and impacts of traffic crashes and improves the safety of motorists, crash victims, and emergency responders; and

**WHEREAS**, National Crash Responder Safety Week provides an opportunity for the Missouri Department of Transportation, Missouri State Highway Patrol, Missouri Bureau of Emergency Medical Services, and emergency responders to inform and educate the citizens and visitors to our state about the dangerous environments, exposures these crash responders face, and share coordinated information regarding traffic incident management; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Missouri recognizes emergency responders are working at or near traffic crashes, often within inches of motorists travelling at highway speeds, and we recognize the positive actions taken by these crash responders reduces the negative impacts that these vehicle crashes create to the responders themselves, to the citizens, and visitors of the State of Missouri; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2022 Missouri emergency responders handled over 54,000 incidents, or about 150 incidents per day on state highways. There were also 1,057 fatalities on Missouri roadways in 2022, a record high year-end total; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Missouri reminds drivers of the "Move Over" law (RSMo 304.022) which requires drivers to change lanes, if safe to do so, when approaching MoDOT vehicles, law enforcement vehicles, and any other emergency vehicle with lights flashing. If drivers can't change lanes safely, they must slow down as they pass the emergency vehicles; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Missouri asks all road users to do their part to keep everyone safe while responding to traffic incidents on our highways by slowing down, moving over, buckling up, putting their phones down, and driving safely.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Michael L. Parson, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim November 13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>, 2023, to be

**NATIONAL CRASH RESPONDER SAFETY WEEK**

in Missouri.

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 16<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2023.



*Michael L. Parson*  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE