



STATE OF MISSOURI
Proclamation
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Vernon Collett joined the Johnson County Fire Protection District in October 1995 and continued to serve with the district for more than 29 years; and

WHEREAS, because of his dedication to responding to emergencies to protect the lives and property of the people of Johnson County, his commitment to training, and his firefighting skills, Vernon Collett was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in 1997 and Captain in 2011; and

WHEREAS, on March 8, 2025, Captain Collett responded to a fast-moving fire in a field that had been started as a controlled burn but grew out of control, and he was attempting to extinguish the fire when he collapsed from a medical emergency and died at the scene; and

WHEREAS, firefighters 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, MIKE KEHOE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, as a mark of respect for the death of

CAPTAIN VERNON COLLETT

and for his bravery and service to the Johnson County Fire Protection District and the citizens of Johnson County, 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 Johnson County from sunrise until sunset on March 14, 2025.

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 13th day of March 2025.




Mike Kehoe
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Denny Hoskins
SECRETARY OF STATE