

STATE OF MISSOURI
Proclamation
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Missouri's Fire Service includes more than 22,000 brave firefighters serving in over 800 career and volunteer agencies who are selflessly dedicated to protecting their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Missourians owe an enormous debt of gratitude to these firefighters, who bravely risk their own lives to protect their fellow citizens and their property, not only from fires, but in response to vehicle crashes, hazardous materials incidents, natural disasters, and other emergencies; and

WHEREAS, since the early 19th century, Missouri's Fire Service has lost more than 400 members who have been recognized by the Board of the Fire Fighters Memorial Foundation of Missouri as having died in the line of duty, including 10 whom the board has recently recognized; and

WHEREAS, these deaths demonstrate the willingness of Missouri's firefighters to lay down their lives to serve and protect their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Missourians honor the courage and sacrifices of the members of the Fire Service and continue to remember all devoted firefighters who gave their lives while protecting others.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MIKE KEHOE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim October 5, 2025, to be

FIRE SERVICE MEMORIAL DAY

in Missouri and call upon all Missourians to remember and give special tribute to these firefighters recently recognized by the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation as having died in the line of duty:

Assistant Chief Matthew Tobben – Boone County Fire Protection District – July 8, 2024

Captain James Cova – Affton Fire Protection District – July 9, 2024

Firefighter William Nix – Thomasville Volunteer Fire Department – January 16, 2025

Captain Christopher Clevenger – West Central Missouri Fire Protection District of Saline and Pettis Counties – January 26, 2025

Captain Vernon Collett - Johnson County Fire Protection District – March 8, 2025

Deputy Chief Donald Kammerich – Pilot Grove Area Fire Protection District – March 10, 2025

Firefighter/Paramedic Graham Hoffman – Kansas City Fire Department – April 27, 2025

Firefighter/EMT Matthew Shafer – Lawson Fire-Rescue Protection District – June 4, 2021

Firefighter Larry Harlan – Jonesburg-High Hill Fire Protection District – August 26, 2021


Captain Marcus Maggard – Jadwin Volunteer Fire Department – January 6, 2022

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 15th day of September 2025.




Mike Kehoe
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:


Denny Hoskins
SECRETARY OF STATE