



SPECIAL RESOLUTION NO. 01-2024

A SPECIAL RESOLUTION AWARDED BY THE SOUTH BEND COMMON COUNCIL COMMEMORATING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK AND THE NATIONAL PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY

Whereas, in 1962, President John F. Kennedy proclaimed May 15 as National Peace Officers Memorial Day, and additionally the calendar week in which May 15 falls as National Police Week; and

Whereas, the women and men of Fraternal Order of Police Lodges number thirty-six (#36) and number one-hundred and fifty-five (#155), representing the South Bend Police Department and the St. Joseph County Police Department, will conduct their annual Tribute and Memorial Service to honor all police officers who have given their lives in the line of duty on May 17, 2024; and

Whereas, since the first (1st) recorded death of a constable in 1786, more than twenty-three thousand (23,000) law enforcement officers in the United States have made the ultimate sacrifice and been killed in the line of duty including: fifteen (15) South Bend Police Officers: Oscar Christenson, Samuel Cooper, Lewis Keller, Hans Brandt, Fred E. Buland, Neil McIntyre, Lloyd Thompson, Delbert Thompson, Charles E. Farkas, Sr., Howard Wagner, Ronald St. Germain, Thomas J. DeRue, Sr., Paul R. DeGuch, Scott Lee Severns, Nick Polizzotto and one (1) St. Joseph County Officer, James W. Mumford; and

Whereas, although South Bend was fortunate in not suffering any such deaths in recent years, we should all remember and honor the seven (7) Hoosier law enforcement officers who made the ultimate sacrifice during 2023 for their community, including Deputy Sheriff Asson Hacker of the Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Office, Master Trooper James R. Bailey of the Indiana State Police, Michael Robert Keel of the Indiana Department of Corrections, Trooper Aaron N. Smith of the Indiana State Police, Sergeant Heather Glenn of the Tell City Police Department, Deputy Sheriff John Durm of the Marion County Sheriff's Office, Deputy Sheriff Timothy J. Guyer Johnson County Sheriff's Office, along with the other one-hundred and thirty (130) law enforcement officers nationwide who died in the line of duty during 2023; and

Whereas, although nationally the number of in line of duty law enforcement deaths for 2023 decreased approximately thirty-eight percent (38%) from 2022, the state of Indiana experienced an increase in deaths from 2022 to 2023; and

Whereas, our elected officials and our community owe it to the law enforcement officers and their families to remember and honor the great sacrifices they have made in the name of serving and protecting our City & County and its residents; and

Whereas, although we implore whatever powers exist to keep all law enforcement officers safe so no new names are added to the Memorial in the future, we must never forget or fail to honor all law enforcement officers who make the ultimate sacrifice on our behalf

Now, therefore, be it gratefully proclaimed, by the Common Council of the City of South Bend, Indiana, as follows:



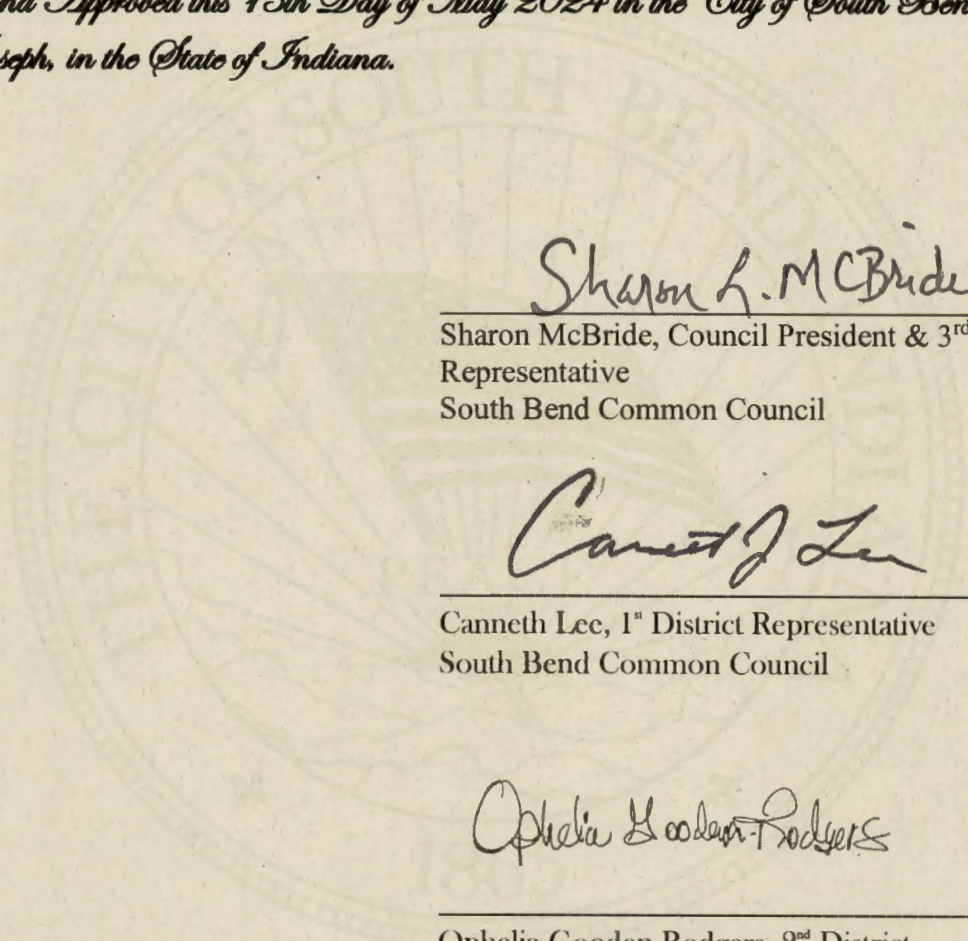
Section I. During this National Police Week, we gratefully honor all law enforcement officers who have given their lives in the line of duty.

Section II. May their numbers grow no more.

Section III. May we never forget.

Section IV. May their families and loved ones find peace.

Signed and Approved this 13th Day of May 2024 in the City of South Bend, County of St. Joseph, in the State of Indiana.



Sharon L. McBride

Sharon McBride, Council President & 3rd District Representative
South Bend Common Council

Canneth J. Lee

Canneth Lee, 1st District Representative
South Bend Common Council

Ophelia Gooden-Rodgers

Ophelia Gooden-Rodgers, 2nd District Representative
South Bend Common Council

Troy Warner

Troy Warner, 4th District Representative
South Bend Common Council

Sherry L. Bolden-Simpson

Sherry Bolden-Simpson, 5th District Representative
South Bend Common Council



Sheila Niezgodski

Sheila Niezgodski, 6th District Representative
South Bend Common Council

Karen L. White

Karen L. White, At-Large Council Representative
South Bend Common Council

Oliver J. Davis

Dr. Oliver J. Davis, At-Large Council
Representative South Bend Common Council

Rachel Tomas Morgan

Rachel Tomas Morgan, At-Large Council
Representative South Bend Common Council