

# City of Petaluma

## Proclamation

### *NATIONAL PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY AND NATIONAL POLICE WEEK 2023*

**WHEREAS**, the Congress and the President of the United States have designated May 15th as Peace Officer Memorial Day and May 14<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> as National Police Week in recognition of law enforcement officers nationwide who have sacrificed their lives or been disabled in the performance of their duties while protecting our communities and safeguarding our democracy; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important that all members of our community know and understand the duties, responsibilities, hazards, and sacrifices of those who dedicate their lives to the law enforcement profession, and to keeping our communities safe; and

**WHEREAS**, the members of the Petaluma Police Department and law enforcement throughout the state and nation risk their lives on a daily basis to maintain peace and protect life and property in our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the members of the Petaluma Police Department provide a vital public service, safeguarding the rights and freedoms of all community members in this city; and

**WHEREAS** it is important to always remember Petaluma Peace Officers Julius Blume (1898), Bert Johnson (1925), Russel Rasmussen (1927), and Vilho Ahola (1998) who selflessly gave their lives while serving and protecting this community; and

**WHEREAS**, in the United States a total of 245 peace officers were killed in the line of duty in 2022 and 30 so far in 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, in California a total of 12 peace officers were killed in the line of duty in 2022, and 2 so far in 2023.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Kevin McDonnell, Mayor of Petaluma, along with the members of the Petaluma City Council, formally designate May 15, 2023, as National Peace Officers Memorial Day and May 14 - 20, 2023, as National Police Week.

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Kevin McDonnell, Mayor

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Kendall Sawyer, City Clerk