



**PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING MAY 4TH, 2025 AS
INTERNATIONAL FIREFIGHTERS DAY**

Whereas, Firefighters and Community Risk Reduction personnel play an indispensable role in preventing and reducing the devastating effects of fire and other human-caused and natural disasters; and

Whereas, Firefighters are recognized for their bravery, commitment to service, and unwavering courage in the face of danger; and

Whereas, on a daily basis, Firefighters place themselves between harm and the members of our community; and

Whereas, May 4th is designated as International Firefighters Day to commemorate those heroic individuals who have given their lives in service to others; and

Whereas, the United States Congress and the President of the United States have designated the day of the annual National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service as a day to honor firefighters and emergency services personnel who have sacrificed their lives to save others by lowering the American flag on all federal buildings to half-staff; and

Whereas, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation will recognize 140 fallen firefighters who courageously made the ultimate sacrifice at its annual service to be held May 4th, 2025 at the site of the National Memorial in Emmitsburg, Maryland; and

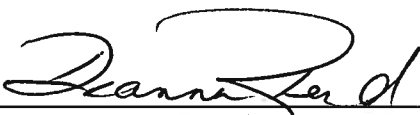
Whereas, keeping our community safe compels us to increase our efforts to prevent fires wherever possible and reduce deaths, injuries, and property losses from fire;

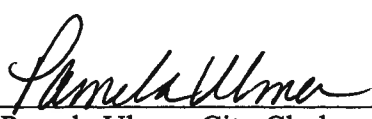
Now, Therefore, I Mayor Deanna Reed of the City of Harrisonburg, Virginia, designate May 4th, 2025 as International Firefighters Day in the City of Harrisonburg and call upon all members of our community and upon all patriotic, civic, and educational organizations to observe this day in recognition of the patriotic service and dedicated efforts of our fire and emergency services personnel by lowering American flags on all buildings to half-staff.

I respectfully encourage these same organizations as well as all residents of Harrisonburg to remember all fire and emergency personnel who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their community and to pay respect to the survivors of our fallen heroes by participating in Bells Across America for Fallen Firefighters. Toll a bell, pause for a moment of silence, or read a special passage to honor the sacrifices of these public servants and their families.

I further encourage these same organizations and residents to show their appreciation for all firefighters by illuminating their exterior of their businesses and residences with a red light in support of **Light the Night for Fallen Firefighters beginning Friday May 2nd 2025, through Sunday May 4th, 2025.**

SIGNED this 22nd day of April 2025


Deanna Reed, Mayor

ATTEST: 
Pamela Ulmer, City Clerk