

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, on June 14, 1775, the Second Continental Congress, representing the citizens of 13 American colonies, authorized the establishment of the Continental Army to defend the colonies against occupying British forces and secure a common defense; and,

WHEREAS, the collective expression of the pursuit of personal freedom that caused the authorization and organization of the United States Army led to the adoption of the Declaration of Independence and the codification of our country's basic principles and values in the Constitution; and,

WHEREAS, for the past 250 years, the United States Army has protected our country in times of peace and in times of conflict and continues its work today, to preserve democracy and defend freedom at home and abroad; and,

WHEREAS, the motto of "This We'll Defend" is more than just words, as it encapsulates the Army's enduring mission: to safeguard the nation, protect its citizenry, and uphold its values; and,

WHEREAS, these men and women who serve proudly as soldiers of the United States Army, and the families who support them, make great sacrifices to defend our freedoms; and,

WHEREAS, no matter what the cause, location or magnitude of future challenges, through war and peace, in conflict and humanitarian missions, Americans can rely on their Army's well-trained, well-led and highly motivated soldiers - and their dedication to defending the nation's highest ideals of freedom, democracy, and justice - to carry out the missions entrusted to them; and,

WHEREAS, throughout the history of Downers Grove, many of its citizens have proudly served in our Nation's defense and some have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country's freedom while serving in the United States Army and other branches of our Nation's military; and,

WHEREAS, today, we celebrate the continued strength, professionalism, and bravery of our soldiers in the all-volunteer force, and observe June 14th as the birthday of the United States Army

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Robert Barnett Mayor of the Village of Downers Grove do hereby commend the soldiers of the United States Army, past and present, and recognize the historic significance of June 14, 2025 as the 250th Birthday of the U.S. Army. And, on behalf of the citizens of Downers Grove, I express our thanks and appreciation to the United States Army and to the dedicated soldiers who have served over these past 250 years.

Dated this 10th day of June 2025, at Downers Grove, Illinois

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert Barnett", with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Mayor