

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Congress and President of the United States have designated May 15th as Peace Officers' Memorial Day, and the week in which it falls, as Police Week; and,

WHEREAS, the members of the Downers Grove Police Department play an essential role in safeguarding the rights and freedoms of residents, businesses and guests in Downers Grove; and,

WHEREAS, it is important that all citizens know and understand the challenges, duties and responsibilities of their police department, and, that members of the Downers Grove Police Department recognize their duty to serve by safeguarding life, liberty and property, by protecting against violence or disorder, protecting the innocent against deception and the weak against oppression and intimidation; and,

WHEREAS, since the first recorded death of a law enforcement officer in 1786, over 26,000 law enforcement officers – including Downers Grove's own officer Richard Barth in 1974 – have made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty; and,

WHEREAS, the Downers Grove Police Department unceasingly provides a vital public service which every member of our community counts on daily; and,

WHEREAS, the Downers Grove Police Department has been, and remains, a recognized leader in modern, efficient, effective and empathetic policing;

NOW, THEREFORE I, Robert T. Barnett, Mayor of the Village of Downers Grove, call upon all citizens of Downers Grove and upon all patriotic, civil and educational organizations to observe the week of May 11 - 17, 2026, as **POLICE WEEK** with appropriate ceremonies in which all of our people may join in commemorating police officers, past and present, who by their faithful and loyal devotion to their responsibilities have rendered a dedicated service to their communities and, in doing so, have established for themselves an enviable and enduring reputation for preserving the rights and security of all citizens.

Dated this 5th day of May 2026, at Downers Grove, Illinois



Mayor