

Town of Apex, North Carolina

# Proclamation

from the Office of the Mayor

## NATIONAL POLICE WEEK 2021

WHEREAS, Congress and the President of the United States have designated May 15, 2021 as "Peace Officers Memorial Day" and the week in which it falls as "National Police Week"; and

WHEREAS, there are approximately 900,000 law enforcement officers serving in communities across the United States, including the dedicated members of the Apex Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the members of our law enforcement agency, the Apex Police Department, play an essential role in safeguarding the rights and freedoms of our Town, and the members of our law enforcement agency recognize their duty to serve the people, ensuring all people are treated with dignity and respect; and

WHEREAS, the service and sacrifice of all officers killed in the line of duty will be honored during the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund's 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Candlelight Vigil on the evening of May 13, 2021; and

WHEREAS, in moments of danger and uncertainty, the first people we turn to are law enforcement officers. These often unsung heroes risk their lives and sacrifice precious time with loved ones so that our community members can live in peace and security; and

WHEREAS, more than that, they are leaders in their communities, serving as mentors, coaches, friends, and neighbors working tirelessly each day to ensure that the people they serve have the opportunities that should be afforded to all people. In honor of all they do, we must give these dedicated professionals the support and appreciation they deserve; and

WHEREAS, Apex Town Council continues to work to ensure Apex Police Department has the resources required to hire, train, and retain officers, provide officers with modern and necessary equipment, and utilize technology to enhance their communication networks and compassionate policing; and

WHEREAS, we understand the strong community relationships are essential for law enforcement to do their jobs effectively. We have held community meetings and supported initiatives bringing law enforcement, academia, youth, civil rights, and community leaders to the table for problem solving while building community trust. Law enforcement officials care deeply about their communities, and together with our partners in law enforcement, we must work to build up our neighborhoods, prevent crime before it happens, and provide opportunity for all people to be healthy and engaged; and

WHEREAS, it takes a special kind of courage to be a peace officer. We hold up those who wear the badge honorably as heroes. Though they too often spend their days witnessing people in crisis, in their extraordinary examples, we see Apex at its best; and

WHEREAS, on this day and throughout this week, let us celebrate those who nobly serve each day and remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice to move our community, nation, and world toward peace and safety; and

WHEREAS, it is important for all citizens to know and understand the duties, responsibilities, hazards, and sacrifices of police officers. I further call upon all citizens to observe May 15, 2021 as "Peace Officers Memorial Day" to honor our law enforcement officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice to their community or have been disabled in the performance of their duties.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jacques K. Gilbert, Mayor of the Town of Apex, North Carolina, call upon our citizens to observe the week of May 9 through May 15, 2021 as "National Police Week" recognizing all law enforcement officers, past and present, who by their faithful and loyal devotion to their responsibilities, have rendered a dedicated compassionate service to their communities.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand  
and caused the Seal of the Town of Apex, North Carolina  
to be affixed this the 11th day of May 2021

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Jacques K. Gilbert, Mayor