



City of Rochelle,  
Illinois  
Office of the Mayor

## Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States 125th Anniversary September 29, 2024

**WHEREAS**, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) was founded in 1899 by a small group of veterans who returned from campaigns on Cuba and in the Philippines, banded together to create a veterans organization that would advocate on behalf of all veterans; and

**WHEREAS**, the VFW is a nonprofit veterans service organization comprised of eligible veterans and military service members from the active, Guard and Reserve forces; and

**WHEREAS**, the VFW's mission is to foster camaraderie among United States veterans of overseas conflicts, to serve our veterans, the military and our communities, and to advocate on behalf of all veterans; and

**WHEREAS**, since its inception the VFW has been instrumental in the establishment of the Veterans Administration, the national cemetery system, and the creation of every national veterans' memorial; and

**WHEREAS**, the VFW has played a vital role in virtually every significant piece of veterans legislation passed in the 20th and 21st centuries to include the Honoring Our PACT Act, the most significant expansions of veterans benefits in history; and

**WHEREAS**, the VFW's 125th anniversary is being observed on September 29, 2025, this date shall officially be known as VFW Day; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that I, John Bearrows, Mayor of the City of Rochelle, do hereby proclaim **September 29** as **VFW Day** in honor of the VFW's invaluable contributions to the veteran community in the City of Rochelle and around the world. We hereby stand with the VFW to ensure veterans are respected for their service, always receive their earned entitlements, and are recognized for the sacrifices they and their loved ones have made on behalf of this great country.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and the official Seal of the City to be affixed this 22nd day of September, 2025

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Bearrows, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

RoseMary Huéramo, City Clerk

