

PROCLAMATION

BOROUGH OF RED BANK

FIRST RESPONDER DAY

WHEREAS, individuals, both career and volunteer, from public safety dispatchers, law enforcement, fire, emergency medical services, emergency management, national guard, transportation, search and rescue, dive, and other organizations in the public safety sector, come together as first responders to protect and aid the public in the event of an emergency; and

WHEREAS, first responders risk their own safety in the performance of their duties to protect our citizens and are our first and best defense against all emergencies that threaten our communities; and

WHEREAS, the Borough wishes to recognize our first responders and what they represent.

WHEREAS, the "Thin Blue Line" stands for law enforcement's separation of order from chaos, or maintaining order during unrest. It has become a symbol of that line we must stand fast to and hold onto in order to protect each other from harm's way. Standing shoulder-to-shoulder on this line, we demonstrate the commitment to all those who we protect from those that may want to inflict harm. The thin blue line describes law enforcement officers, in essence, as the sheepdogs. The Sheepdogs live to protect the flock and confront the wolves; and

WHEREAS, the "Thin Red Line" is a symbol used by fire departments to show respect for firefighters injured and killed in the line of duty. As firefighters are periled, they place their lives second to those they protect. They are forced to face their own fears and grasp for every ounce of courage to perform the necessary task. "The Thin Red Line of Courage" represents the last ounce of courage firefighters find deep in their blood to conquer their darkest fears in order to save and protect life and property; and

WHEREAS, the "Thin White Line" represents EMS. This line of hope honors all those members of emergency medical services teams, whether career or volunteer that provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The emergency medical services system consists of first responders, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, emergency medical dispatchers, firefighters, police officers, educators, administrators, pre-hospital nurses, emergency nurses, emergency physicians, trained members of the public, and other out of hospital medical care providers; and

WHEREAS, the "Thin Gold Line" represents Dispatchers. These are the unsung heroes of public safety. Dispatchers are the behind the scene players who ensure the safety of our men and women in blue, callout the response for fire and emergency medical response. They are the bridge that connects people in need to the help, care and protection they need in the most challenging moments. They are that kind voice in the middle of the night during an emergency call. They are the key that unlocks every emergency service in the country but few know who they are; and

WHEREAS, the members of first responder organizations undergo significant education, training, and personal sacrifice in order to achieve the expertise required to respond to emergency situations for the public good and often for no pay; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Red Bank thanks each and every first responder for their incredible and selfless contributions.

NOW THEREFORE, I, William Portman, Mayor of the Borough of Red Bank, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim Saturday, October 28, 2023 be known and celebrated as First Responder Day in the Borough of Red Bank and do urge and encourage all residents to join in recognizing and honoring those who have safeguarded our community in the past and those, who willingly carrying on this tradition today.



William Portman, Mayor