



500 West Big Beaver  
Troy, MI 48084  
troymi.gov

## FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Date: June 24, 2022

To: Mark F. Miller, City Manager

From: Robert J. Bruner, Assistant City Manager

Subject: Proclamations and Congratulatory Certificates

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### **Background**

City Council Rules of Procedure are the guidelines set by City Council for its meetings. Rule 7 is regarding Proclamations and Congratulatory Certificates. City Council held a special meeting on February 28, 2022 to discuss proclamations and provide City staff with direction regarding potential criteria. Four themes emerged: health, safety, welfare, and local impact. The May 23, 2022 City Council agenda included a report regarding proclamations. The purpose of this memo is to provide proposed guidelines for City Council consideration.

### **Proposed Guidelines**

Proclamation requests must be submitted by Troy community members (residents and non-resident business owners, employees, and property owners).

Proclamations may be issued for the following:

1. To recognize individuals, events, and organizations in Troy.
2. To promote public awareness campaigns related to health, safety, and welfare.
3. To promote annual special days, weeks, and months recognized by presidential proclamation.

Proclamations may not be issued for the following:

- Ideology
- Politics
- Religion

### **Examples**

The following examples would satisfy these guidelines if requested by a Troy community member.

#### **Individuals, events, and organizations in Troy**

- Certificate of Recognition and Congratulations to Athens High School 2021-2022 Junior Varsity and Varsity Winter Guard Teams (June 13, 2022)
- Service Commendation for Fire Chief Richard "Chuck" Riesterer 2022 (May 23, 2022)
- Proclamation in Recognition of Athens High School 2021-2022 Student Council (April 25, 2022)
- Proclamation Celebrating Max and Sophia Pollak For Organizing Holiday Food Drives to Feed the Needy (February 14, 2022)



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### Public awareness campaigns related to health, safety, or welfare

March 8: International Women's Day (IWD)

<https://www.internationalwomensday.com/>

April: National Public Safety Telecommunicator Week (NPSTW)

<https://www.npstw.org/about-npstw/>

National Arbor Day

<https://www.arborday.org/celebrate/>

May: National Do Something Good for Your Neighbor Day

<https://www.facebook.com/goodneighborday1/>

(Not to be confused with National Good Neighbor Day on September 28)

<https://nationalgoodneighborday.com/>

Professional Municipal Clerks Week

<https://www.iimc.com/156/Municipal-Clerks-Week>

June: National Gun Violence Awareness Month, National Gun Violence Awareness Day, and Wear Orange

<https://wearorange.org/about/>

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-resolution/437/text>

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Awareness Month

<https://www.ptsd.va.gov/understand/awareness/index.asp>

July 22: World Fragile X Day

<https://worldfragilexday.com/>

September International Day of Peace

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/international-day-peace>



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Welcoming Week

<https://welcomingamerica.org/initiatives/welcoming-week/>

National Kinship Care Awareness Month

<https://nfpaonline.org/National-Kinship-Care-Month-2021>

October: Filipino American History Month

<http://fanhs-national.org/filam/about/>

November: Lung Cancer Awareness Month

<https://www.lung.org/lung-force/about-lung-force/featured-campaigns/lung-cancer-awareness-month>

Small Business Saturday

<https://www.sba.gov/about-sba/organization/sba-initiatives/small-business-saturday>

### **Annual special days, weeks, and months recognized by presidential proclamation**

January 16: National Religious Freedom Day

February: American Heart Month  
National Black History Month

March: National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month  
Women's History Month  
Education and Sharing Day, U.S.A.  
Greek Independence Day

May: Asian American and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Heritage Month  
Public Service Recognition Week  
Peace Officers Memorial Day and Police Week  
Emergency Medical Services Week

June: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Pride Month  
National Immigrant Heritage Month  
Juneteenth Day of Observance

July: Anniversary of the Americans With Disabilities Act



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September: National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month  
National Recovery Month  
World Suicide Prevention Day  
Patriot Day and National Day of Service and Remembrance

October: National Breast Cancer Awareness Month  
Fire Prevention Week

November: America Recycles Day

December: National Impaired Driving Prevention Month

The following examples would not satisfy these guidelines if requested by a Troy community member.

Politics: National School Choice Week. I use this example because the “Proclamations Department” of National School Choice Week recently contacted the City to inquire about the process for submitting a proclamation request. Opportunity in education may not seem like a political issue to the casual observer. However, school choice has been a major policy platform for Republicans and Democrats generally oppose policies that support access to private schools. The controversial nature of these policies is evidenced by lawsuits like *Espinoza v. Montana Dept. of Revenue* (06/30/2020) and *20-1088 Carson v. Makin* (06/21/2022) reaching the Supreme Court.

Religion: Hindu Heritage Month. I use this example because City Council recognized Hindu Heritage Month as recently as October 25, 2021. The Hindu Heritage Month website is a collaborated initiative of many Hindu organizations worldwide. It includes a collection of proclamations from around the country and provides help to individuals seeking proclamations. No president has issued a proclamation but Governor Gretchen Whitmer did a proclamation on October 22, 2021. Religion may be best celebrated on days like the National Religious Freedom Day (January 16) and/or the National Day of Prayer (first Thursday of May).

Remembrance: Armenian Remembrance Day. I use this example because City Council recognized Armenian Remembrance Day as recently as October 25, 2021. Governor Gretchen Whitmer issued a proclamation and President Joe Biden issued a statement regarding Armenian Remembrance Day on April 24, 2022 but no president has issued a proclamation. In recent years, annual days of remembrance recognized by presidential proclamation have been limited to National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day (December 7, 2021), National Days of Prayer and Remembrance of September 11, 2001 (September 10, 2021, through September 12, 2021), Patriot Day and National Day of Service and Remembrance of September 11, 2001 (September 11, 2021), and Days of Remembrance of Victims of the Holocaust (April 24 through May 1, 2022).