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PROCLAMATION
National Police Week – May, 2026
&
Peace Officers Memorial Day

WHEREAS, the Village of Orland Park proudly recognizes and honors the men and women of law enforcement who dedicate their lives to protecting and serving our community; and

WHEREAS, there are more than 800,000 law enforcement officers serving in communities across the United States, including the dedicated members of the Orland Park Police Department; and

WHEREAS, since the first recorded line-of-duty death in 1786, more than 24,775 law enforcement officers in the United States have made the ultimate sacrifice, with their names now engraved on the walls of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, 363 new names of fallen heroes are being added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in 2026, including 109 officers killed in the line of duty in 2025 and 254 officers killed in previous years; 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 38th Annual Candlelight Vigil on the evening of May 13, 2026, on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., where an estimated 30,000 people gather each year to pay their respects; and

WHEREAS, the Candlelight Vigil is part of National Police Week, which will be observed May 11–16, 2026, and was established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1962 to pay special recognition to law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty; and

WHEREAS, May 15 is designated as Peace Officers Memorial Day, established by President John F. Kennedy in 1962, in honor of all fallen officers and their families, with the flag of the United States to be flown at half-staff; and

WHEREAS, the Orland Park Police Department exemplifies the highest standards of professionalism, courage, and dedication, serving our residents with distinction every day;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Mayor and Board of Trustees of the Village of Orland Park hereby observe May 11–16, 2026 as National Police Week and May 15, 2026 as Peace Officers Memorial Day, and publicly salute the service of the men and women of the Orland Park Police Department and law enforcement officers in communities across the nation.

We call upon all residents of Orland Park to observe this week and honor the dedication, valor, and sacrifice of our law enforcement officers, past and present.

Dated this 4th day of May 2026.

James Dodge
Mayor

Mary Ryan Norwell
Village Clerk