Commonwealth of Virginia
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Peace Officers Memorial Day and Police Week in Fairfax County

Joint Board Matter

Supervisor Rodney Lusk with Board Chairman Jeffrey C. McKay, Supervisor Kathy L. Smith, Supervisor James R. Walkinshaw, Supervisor James N. Bierman, Supervisor Dalia A. Palchik, Supervisor Daniel G. Storck, Supervisor Walter L. Alcorn, Supervisor Andres F. Jimenez, and Supervisor Pat Herrity

April 22, 2025

Mr. Chairman,

Peace Officers Memorial Day is recognized annually on May 15 to honor the police officers who have fallen, or who have been disabled, in the line of duty. National Police Week is the calendar week during which the memorial falls. This year, National Police Week will be recognized May 12, 2025 through May 18, 2025. The Fairfax County Police Department has lost six personnel in the line of duty. These men and women made the ultimate sacrifice to keep our community safe. It is important that we honor their memory.

Their names are:

Officer Karen J. Bassford
End of Watch: July 27, 1977

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Special Police Officer Hendrick A. Gideonse
End of Watch: December 3, 1998

Captain Tommy F. Bernal
End of Watch: June 28, 2001

Detective Vicky O. Armel
End of Watch: May 8, 2006

Master Police Officer Michael E. Garbarino
End of Watch: May 17, 2006

Second Lieutenant Francis J. Stecco
End of Watch: October 25, 2008

Therefore Mr. Chairman,

I move that the Board of Supervisors designate May 15, 2025, as Peace Officers Memorial Day and designate May 12, 2025, through May 18, 2025 as Police Week in Fairfax County to coincide with the national observances. I further move that the Board of Supervisors direct the Office of Public Affairs to promote these observances and to prepare proclamations to be presented either within or outside of the Board room.