

## CITY OF SOLDOTNA RESOLUTION 2021-043

### A RESOLUTION IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 TERRORIST ATTACKS AGAINST THE UNITED STATES AND IN RECOGNITION OF THE MANY WHO SERVE IN THE UNITED STATES MILITARY AND ALL FIRST RESPONDERS

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WHEREAS, as we approach the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the terrorist attacks committed against the United States on September 11, 2001, the Soldotna City Council express their support for remembrance of that tragic day; and

WHEREAS, 20 years later people around the world continue to mourn the tremendous loss of innocent life on that fateful day and thousands of men and women in the United States Armed Forces remain in harm's way defending the United States against those who seek to threaten the United States; and

WHEREAS, the people of Soldotna have a long and patriotic history of stating our love of country by action, such as:

- The Joel Wilkins Flag Program
- The Red, White and Blue Hydrant Program
- Sending goods and materials to our military members serving overseas
- Students assembly to establish patriotic displays and messages
- Worked with local organizations to ensure the placement of the "Bronze Iron Mike" Statue in Soldotna Creek Park

WHEREAS, with these and many other acts of kindness and support for those who make America Great, and as "One Nation Under God" whose motto is "In God we trust", the City of Soldotna proudly proclaims our love of country on the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 9/11 attack; and

WHEREAS, September 11 will never, and should never, be just another day in the hearts and minds of people of Soldotna;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOLDOTNA, ALASKA:

Section 1. That the Soldotna City Council expresses their support for remembrance of September 11, 2001 and the United States Military and all First Responders.

Section 2. That a copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Local VFW, American Legion and AmVets.

Section 3. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL THIS 8TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul J. Whitney, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Michelle M. Saner, MMC, City Clerk

Yes:  
No:  
Absent:

**TO:** Mayor Whitney and Members of the City Council  
**FROM:** Council Member Carey  
**DATE:** September 8, 2021  
**SUBJECT:** Resolution 2021-043 – In Remembrance of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the September 11, 2001 Terrorist Attacks against the United States

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As we approach the 20th Anniversary of the Terrorist Attack on the United States, it is appropriate that the Soldotna City Council and the People of Soldotna proudly state our love of America, our Military and all First Responders.

The People of Soldotna have a long and patriotic history of stating our love of country, our flag, our veterans, our children and our values.

1. The Joel Wilkins Flag Program supported by the Soldotna Elks Lodge #2706, places flagpoles and American Flags along many of our primary roads and buildings. For 20 years Soldotna City Employees and placed and replaced these Flags and Flagpoles. Joel Wilkins was an honored, long-time employees of the City.
2. Immediately after 9/11, the People of Soldotna painted the City Fire Hydrants, Red, White & Blue to visibly proclaim our support for our Country, Flag, Military, and our City's First Responders. As a River City, water promotes our livelihoods and our Safety. Many local residents painted the closest hydrant to their houses with their children.
3. The Children of Soldotna Schools, placed their hand-prints, in Red and Blue, on the Knight Drive Cement Wall that had initially been part of the original Soldotna Kenai River Bridge. First and Second Graders of our Elementary Schools and Graduating Seniors from our local High Schools placed their initials on the hand-prints.
4. Hundreds of Soldotna Area Residents, young and old, collected and assisted in sending goods and materials to our military members serving overseas. Classrooms, Faith Communities, and many, many people brought goods to be sent along with letters of support. Socks and Coffee were the most often mentioned goods along with the pictures of support for all those serving.
5. At Christmas, the Park Street Fence was decorated by local high school students in patriotic displays and messages. In -20 degree temperatures, students worked on the fence in 15 minutes intervals from warm school vans.
6. At the request of Korean War Veteran Herb Stettler, our community supported by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, AmVets, Elks Lodges, Moose Lodge, Eagles, Pioneers of Alaska, Senior Citizen Organizations, School children, churches and 100's of citizens along with great material support from the City of Soldotna, Purchased and Placed a "Bronze Iron Mike" Statue at the opening to Soldotna Creek Park. "The Iron Mike Statue" is to express our support for all those who have served or are serving in our Military.

With these and many other acts of kindness and support for those who make America Great, and as "One Nation Under God" the City of Soldotna Council, Mayor, and City Administration proudly proclaim our love of country on the 20th Anniversary of the 9/11 Attack.