

# Office of the Mayor

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# PROCLAMATION

~IN RECOGNITION~

## PURPLE HEART CITY



*WHEREAS, the City of Shawnee is dedicated to honoring the sacrifice of the millions of veterans of the United States who have left their families and communities to serve in lands both foreign and domestic to defend our nation's freedom for the good of all. The City appreciates the sacrifices our Veterans have made in defending our freedom and believe it is important we acknowledge them for their courage; and*

*WHEREAS, as tangible evidence of our support and gratitude to the sacrifices made on our behalf, the City of Shawnee established a memorial and park on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 1992, as a national tribute to all veterans, and will be implementing Hometown Hero banners this fall for families to purchase on behalf of their Veteran to be displayed on the street lights along downtown Nieman Road; and*

*WHEREAS, the City of Shawnee is dedicated to supporting veterans by hosting an annual Veteran's Day Celebration, and was named a Freedom Award Recipient by the United States Secretary of Defense in 2015; and*

*WHEREAS, local organizations, including Shawnee VFW Post #10552, American Legion Post #327 and the Sons of the American Revolution Monticello Chapter also go above and beyond to recognize and support our military veterans; and*

*WHEREAS, the Purple Heart is the oldest military decoration in present use and was initially created as the Badge of Military Merit by General George Washington in 1782; and*

*WHEREAS, the Purple Heart was the first American service award or decoration made available to the common soldier and is specifically awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces who have been wounded or paid the ultimate sacrifice in combat with a declared enemy of the United States of America; and*

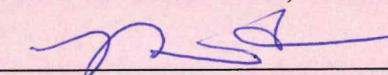
*WHEREAS, established in 1992 in Mt. Vernon, Virginia by the Military Order of the Purple Heart, the mission of the Purple Heart Trail is to be an "Outward expression of an internal desire to recognize and honor recipients of the Purple Heart*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michelle Distler, Mayor of the City of Shawnee, Kansas do hereby proclaim Shawnee as a "Purple Heart City" and will proudly display our support and recognition for the sacrifices that have been made and will continue to be made on behalf of our country and citizens, and am honored to join the revered Purple Heart Trail.*



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY OF SHAWNEE, KANSAS

BY



MICHELLE DISTLER, MAYOR