

CITY OF LAKEWOOD



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Vietnam War was a long, costly and divisive conflict that pitted the communist government of North Vietnam against South Vietnam and its principal ally, the United States; and

WHEREAS, for almost two decades during the conflict, Americans raised their right hands and committed to serve and defend our Constitution as uniformed members of the United States Armed Forces during a time when opposition to the Vietnam War created a bitter division among Americans; and

WHEREAS, throughout the years of the Vietnam War, more than 3 million people were killed, including over 58,000 Americans, while 9 million Americans returned home with the title of United States Veteran. At the time of their return many of these veterans were not welcomed home or thanked for their service due to opposition to the war. That's why today and every day, we honor their bravery and commitment and give thanks to a generation of Americans who valiantly fought in service of their country; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lakewood honors all those who served in the Vietnam War and recognizes the continued impact the conflict has on so many veterans and their families, caregivers, and survivors; and

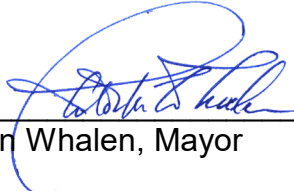
WHEREAS, in 2012, our nation launched a 13-year-long commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War to ensure that every veteran, family, caregiver, and survivor impacted by the war knows and experiences our gratitude for their sacrifice.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Lakewood City Council does hereby observe March 29, 2023 as

NATIONAL VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY

and commemorates the hardships and sacrifices of those who served and their families who supported them before, during, and after the war.

PROCLAIMED this 20th day of March, 2023.



Jason Whalen, Mayor