



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

LAW ENFORCEMENT SUICIDE AWARENESS DAY

- WHEREAS:** Frequent and repeated exposure to critical incidents takes a toll on law enforcement officers, leading to significantly higher rates of mental health and suicide; and
- WHEREAS:** Law enforcement officers are more likely to die by suicide than in the line of duty, with nearly 200 known officer suicides reported each year; and
- WHEREAS:** The State of Georgia recognizes that its first responders serve on the front lines, facing stressful and trauma-based situations daily that impact their mental health; and
- WHEREAS:** There are several barriers that prevent law enforcement officers from accessing mental health services, including shame and stigma. There is an urgent need to end the silence surrounding law enforcement suicide and for prevention and awareness; and
- WHEREAS:** Law Enforcement Suicide Awareness Day provides the opportunity to educate oneself about warning signs and how to best help those in need. It is time to stop the stigma around officer suicide; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim September 26, 2021 as LAW ENFORCEMENT SUICIDE AWARENESS DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 12th day of August in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-One.



B. Kemp

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Mantua Kipertnick

CHIEF OF STAFF