

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

PROCLAMATION NO. 2019-094

Proclamation Recognizing the Observance of Veterans Day on November 11, 2019, in Multnomah County, Oregon.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

- a. In 1954, Congress formally created Veterans Day to pay tribute to all American Veterans, renaming Armistice Day which had been celebrated as a legal federal holiday since 1938.
- b. Many Veterans throughout our country's history have served, including women, people of color, immigrants, people who identify with all sexual orientations and gender identities, people with disabilities, and other brave individuals. The diversity of Veterans is a tremendous strength that makes our Armed Forces stronger and more vibrant. Today, we are working towards greater inclusivity and equity in how we support the needs of people who have served our country.
- c. Veterans Day is a time for Americans to honor every service member who has ever worn one of our Nation's uniforms. Throughout our history, Americans have answered the call to duty and served our country with honor and dignity.
- d. There are an estimated 36,744 Veterans who live in Multnomah County. Further, according to Multnomah County's employee survey, between 5 and 7 percent of the nearly 6,000 current active County employees have served in the Armed Forces. After completion of their service, Multnomah County is committed to providing the respect and support that all Veterans have earned, including improved access to employment, benefits, housing, and health care.
- e. Multiple organizations and agencies throughout the community partner to meet the needs of Veterans. At Multnomah County, a team of Veterans Services Officers works directly with Veterans and their families in an effort to ensure that they receive all State and Federal benefits available to them. The Multnomah County Veteran Employee Resource Group provides support and identifies resources for County employees who are Veterans or are married or related to a current or former service member. Multiple other County departments serve Veterans through their programs.
- f. The Multnomah County Veterans Task Force was convened in 2010 by Commissioner Diane McKeel to assess and identify the services provided to military Veterans in Multnomah County. Today, the Task Force provides a collaborative forum for education and advocacy, with the goal of including service members, Veterans and their families in decisions about policy and resource allocation.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Proclaims:

In observance of Veterans Day on November 11, 2019, that on this day all Veterans and current members of the Armed Forces, Active, Reserve and National Guard be remembered and honored.

ADOPTED this 7th day of November, 2019.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON



Deborah Kafoury, Chair

REVIEWED:
JENNY M. MADKOUR, COUNTY ATTORNEY
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON



By _____
Jenny M. Madkour, County Attorney

SUBMITTED BY: Commissioner Sharon Meieran