

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Lawrence County was formed on January 15, 1815 from New Madrid County, Missouri as part of the legislative Act of the Missouri Territory. Lawrence County is the second Arkansas county, following Arkansas County, in what is now called the State of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS: Lawrence County was named for Captain James Lawrence, a naval commander who was killed in the War of 1812; and

WHEREAS: Thirty-one counties were formed from the original Lawrence County which once spanned the majority of northern Arkansas, thus Lawrence County is called the Mother of Counties; and

WHEREAS: Davidsonville, at the confluence of the Black and Spring Rivers and originally named Lawrence, served as the first county seat until 1829, when the county seat was moved to Jackson near present day Imboden, then to Smithville in 1837, to Clover Bend in 1868, then to Powhatan in 1869; and

WHEREAS: After the completion of the Iron Mountain Railroad from St. Louis to Little Rock and the decline of the steamboat river trade in Powhatan, in 1870 the county seat responsibilities were shared by Powhatan for the western part of Lawrence County and Walnut Ridge for the eastern part. The county enjoyed two county seats until 1963 when Walnut Ridge became to sole county seat and remains so today; and

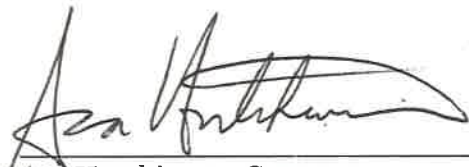
WHEREAS: Present day Lawrence County straddles the Black River with the lowlands of the Mississippi Delta on the east and the foothills of the Ozark Mountains on the west;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim January 15, 2015, as

THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF LAWRENCE COUNTY, ARKANSAS

across the State, and I urge my fellow citizens to recognize the founding of Lawrence County, Arkansas.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 14th day of September, in the year of our Lord 2015.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor



Attest:



Mark Martin, Secretary Of State