

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Arkansas correctional officers work without fanfare to protect the public by providing safe, secure, and humane confinement of the state's offenders, while contributing to the rehabilitation of the offenders through educational, vocational, treatment, and counseling programs. To maintain order inside correctional facilities, officers must work shifts that cover every hour of every day regardless of holidays, inclement weather, or natural and man-made disasters; and

WHEREAS: Correctional officers must be experts at communication, conflict resolution, de-escalation of volatile situations, and crisis management. They work to prevent contraband, escapes, confrontations, and violence among inmates. In carrying out their duties, correctional officers face serious risks to their personal safety and often put themselves in harm's way to protect others; and

WHEREAS: The role of correctional officers continues to expand as the offender population grows. Officers are well-trained professionals who must remain at the ready while monitoring offender activities, movement, and behavior to detect security threats, unrest, and any sign of conflict; and

WHEREAS: Thousands of men and women serve as correctional officers at Arkansas Department of Correction and Department of Community Correction facilities and at county and local jails throughout the state. These brave officers demonstrate unwavering commitment to their agencies and to the citizens of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS: On May 5, 1984, President Ronald Reagan proclaimed the first National Correctional Officers Week and called upon "officials of State and local governments and the people of the United States to observe this week with appropriate ceremonies and activities" to recognize the continuing contributions of correctional officers;

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 May 6th through May 12th, 2018, as

CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS WEEK

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 17th day of April, in the year of our Lord 2018.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Mark Martin, Secretary Of State