

STATE OF ARKANSAS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: The State Partnership Program is a joint program of the United States Department of Defense and the individual states, including Arkansas, linking National Guard units of the various states with partner nations worldwide, creating mutually beneficial relations through diverse military-to-military engagements that foster friendships and create enduring relationships to achieve mutually strategic objectives; and

WHEREAS: The State Partnership Program has successfully built relationships over 25 years with 90 nations around the world; and

WHEREAS: Through this program, the Arkansas National Guard conducts military-to-military engagements in support of mutual defense security goals leveraging whole-of-society relationships and capabilities to facilitate broad interagency and corollary engagements spanning military, government, economic, and social spheres; and

WHEREAS: Starting in 2002, the Arkansas National Guard and the Republic of Guatemala Armed Forces developed a State Partnership Program, forging a relationship built on trust and professionalism resulting in over 200 security cooperation engagements; and

WHEREAS: The Arkansas National Guard and Guatemalan Armed Forces share best practices and strengthen interoperability to improve humanitarian assistance and disaster relief capabilities during times of crises; and

WHEREAS: Annually, the Arkansas National Guard and the Guatemalan Armed Forces work side by side in the Arkansas Best Warrior Competition to bolster Esprit de Corps between our militaries and jointly increase readiness; and

WHEREAS: The State of Arkansas is committed to an enduring cooperative relationship with the Republic of Guatemala and recognizes the importance of this partnership in the defense of our state and nation;

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 June 4th, 2022, as

GUATEMALA STATE PARTNERSHIP DAY

across the State which marks two decades of the establishment of the relationship, and I encourage my fellow citizens to extend their support not only to the Arkansas National Guard members and units from our great state but also to the citizens, leaders, and military partners from the Republic of Guatemala.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 12th day of November, in the year of our Lord 2021.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor

John Thurston, Secretary of State