

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: The State of Arkansas recognizes the need for emergency responders to respond at any hour to all types of vehicle crashes throughout the state; and

WHEREAS: In 2021, a traffic crash was reported in Arkansas every six minutes and 27 seconds, resulting in 81,240 traffic crashes, including 10 fatal crashes and 334 injury crashes; and

WHEREAS: Since January of this year, 38 emergency responders have been struck and killed nationwide while responding to traffic incidents; and

WHEREAS: Emergency responders working the scene of a traffic crash or other incident may include any combination of law enforcement officers, firefighters, emergency medical service personnel, towing and recovery operators, and transportation worker. They risk being struck by a vehicle and killed or injured in the line of duty every hour of every day; and

WHEREAS: Along with the general public, all emergency responders have a responsibility to protect each other and reduce the risk of secondary crashes by training in traffic incident management (TIM) with other emergency responders and using TIM best practices when responding to traffic incidents; and

WHEREAS: All drivers have a duty to drive safely and take every precaution to reduce the risk of crashes, which includes following our state's Move Over Law, designed to provide a safety zone for workers on the sides of roadways; and

WHEREAS: Crash Responder Safety Week is an opportunity for Arkansans to raise awareness that every emergency responder and driver has a responsibility for traffic incident safety. By staying alert, avoiding distractions, driving carefully around traffic incidents, and obeying the Move Over Law, we can save lives;

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 November 14th through November 18th, 2022, as

CRASH RESPONDER SAFETY WEEK

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 October, in the year of our Lord 2022.



Asa Hutchinson

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest:

John Thurston

John Thurston, Secretary of State