



GUIDELINE TO ESTABLISH A PURPLE HEART CITY or COUNTY

Here are some tips and suggestions on establishing a Purple Heart City or County. This is just a guide to assist in your efforts, and does not proclaim to be the "End-All" in the procedure.

I use a County Board of Supervisors (BOS) in the below outline, however, you can use the same information for a City Council or Board of Commissioners, etc.

First, find out who on your BOS is the Veteran's contact person. If there is no Supervisor assigned to this, contact the Board Chairperson or County person known to you, and ask for a face-to-face meeting.

Have with you a copy of the example Proclamation (click for two examples), and suggest they can use it as a guide in making their own. Be prepared to explain what your intent is ie, honoring all those who have sacrificed for their country .. those killed or wounded in combat

Make sure you advise him/her that it's cost neutral; that it will not cost the County any money ... any incurred cost will be absorbed by your chapter - such as plaques, highway signs, etc. This is an important point, as knowing that there is no cost involved will resolve any fiscal issue that might inhibit action.

You will probably be referred to the County Clerk to work up the Proclamation. Be sure she/he sends you a draft copy for your review and approval - *before it's finalized*. It's important you agree with the verbiage.

Once the Proclamation is firmed up, ask that the BOS presentation be placed on the agenda at least two weeks in advance. This gives you time to contact other Veterans organizations to attend the meeting, and for you to contact the newspaper / radio to publicize the event. Invite as many veterans you can - Ladies, other vets, all your members, etc.

If your BOS meetings are televised, ask the cameraman for copies on DVD - they may charge you, but some may honor our non-profit status and waive any charge. If they won't waive the cost, *pay the money* - it's well worth it to have a DVD of the presentation. If no filming is available, assign someone to video it.

Be prepared to give a short acceptance speech (if given the opportunity). They are honoring Purple Heart veterans, and they should receive recognition for doing so.

If you can, bring enough of your Department coins / pins, etc. to present to all the Supervisors - don't forget the County / City Attorney, Clerk of the Board, Chief Administrative Officer, City Manager etc. Everyone who sits facing the audience should get one.

After the awards, Chapters gather outside and take lot of still pictures - some are submitted to, and were published in, the Purple Heart Magazine, others can feature in the Purple Hat Press.

Please keep your Department and Regional Commander apprised of your progress. As the National Coordinator of the program, I will need legislative confirmation (a copy of the resolution or proclamation) alongwith an address, specifically a zipcode. Once confirmed, I will post it on the National web-site.

It is suggested you send the Proclamation / Resolution to your Department Commander, who will send it to your Regional Commander, who will send it to me (scanned copy in email). It is very important your chain-of-command be kept in the 'loop'.

The above can also be used as an outline for a Purple Heart State, by contacting a State Legislator who would be willing to introduce a Bill or Resolution.

Call or email me anytime if I can be of further assistance. Yours in Patriotism,

Jim

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PROCLAMATION

A PURPLE HEART CITY

JANUARY 22, 2014

WHEREAS, the City of Albany in the state of Oregon has always supported its military veteran population; and

WHEREAS, the Purple Heart is the oldest military decoration in present use and was initially created as the Badge of Military Merit by General George Washington in 1782; and

WHEREAS, the Purple Heart was the first American service award or decoration made available to the common soldier and is specifically awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces who have been wounded or paid the ultimate sacrifice in combat with a declared enemy of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Military Order of the Purple Heart is to foster an environment of goodwill among the combat-wounded veteran members and their families, promote patriotism, support legislative initiatives, and most importantly -- make sure we never forget; and

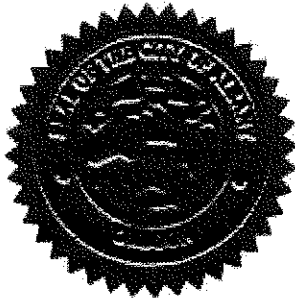
WHEREAS, the Albany metropolitan area has a large, highly decorated veteran population including many Purple Heart recipients; and

WHEREAS, Albany appreciates the sacrifices our Purple Heart recipients made in defending our freedoms and believe it is important that we acknowledge them for their courage and show them the honor and support they have earned.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sharon Konopa, Mayor of the City of Albany, Oregon, do hereby proclaim the City of Albany as

A PURPLE HEART CITY

and encourage the citizens of the City of Albany to show their appreciation for the sacrifices of the Purple Heart recipients have made in defending our freedoms, to acknowledge their courage, and to show them the honor and support they have earned.



In witness whereof, I have hereunto placed my hand and caused the seal of the City of Albany to be affixed this 22nd day of January 2014.


Sharon Konopa, Mayor

Shasta County Board of Supervisors Proclamation

Shasta County
~ A Purple Heart County ~

WHEREAS, the people of the County of Shasta have great admiration and the utmost gratitude for all the men and women who have selflessly served their country and this community in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, veterans have paid the high price of freedom by leaving their families and communities and placing themselves in harm's way for the good of all; and

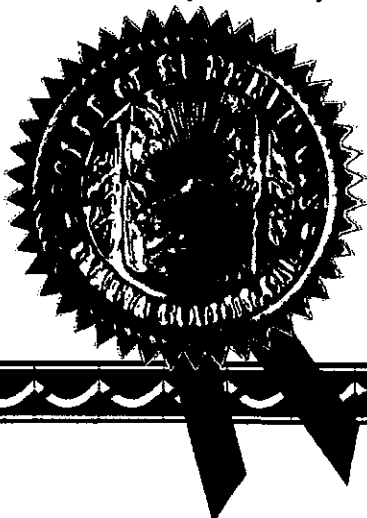
WHEREAS, the contributions and sacrifices of the men and women from Shasta County who served in the Armed Forces have been vital in maintaining the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by our citizens; and

WHEREAS, many men and women in uniform have given their lives while serving in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, many citizens of our community have earned the Purple Heart Medal as a result of being wounded while engaged in combat with an enemy force, construed as a singularly meritorious act of essential service; and

WHEREAS, September 20, 2011 has officially been designated as the day in Shasta County to remember and recognize veterans who are recipients of the Purple Heart Medal.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Shasta County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims Shasta County as a *Purple Heart County*, the first County in the nation so designated, honoring the service and sacrifice of our nation's men and women in uniform wounded or killed by the enemy while serving to protect the freedoms enjoyed by all Americans.



Les Baugh, Chairman

September 20, 2011

Date