

# PROCLAMATION

## National Guard's 389th Birthday - December 13, 2025

**WHEREAS**, we know that the **U.S. National Guard** is the oldest military organization in America and its members respond to state and national emergencies, military conflicts and natural disasters, and also conduct search and rescue operations; and

**WHEREAS**, we also recognize that the U.S. Army National Guard is a reserve force of men and women who trace their roots back to Colonial America. Founded in 1636 as a citizen force, today the National Guard is a ready reserve group of 450,000 men and women voluntarily serving in all 50 states and four U.S. territories; and

**WHEREAS**, we recognize that the **Oregon Army National Guard** traces its heritage and tradition of citizen-service back to July 5, 1843, when the Oregon provisional government passed the first militia law that organized citizens for defense, and eventually evolved in the formation of the Oregon National Guard in 1903; and

**WHEREAS**, military presence in Oregon has not ceased since to defend freedom at home and overseas with Oregon National Guard service in the American Civil War to World Wars I and II and into Operation Desert Shield / Desert Storm and the Global War on Terrorism; and

**WHEREAS**, we know that the Oregon National Guard continues its historic mission of providing a ready force of citizen soldiers and airmen, equipped and trained to respond to any contingency, natural or man-made with deployments all over the world; and

**WHEREAS**, we know that the brave men and women of the Oregon National Guard honorably live by the motto, *When We Are Needed, We Are There*; and

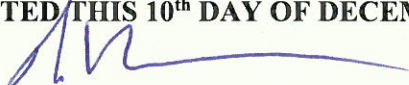
**WHEREAS**, in recent years, the utilization of the National Guard has been unprecedented with members of the Oregon National Guard providing critical support to the state's COVID-19 response, assisting civilian law enforcement during periods of civil unrest, as well as assisting state and local governments during hazardous weather and wildfire response operations; and

**WHEREAS**, we are proud to honor members of Roseburg's Charlie Company unit, who represent Oregon National Guard's 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 186<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment for the invaluable work they do; and


**WHEREAS**, we recognize that the Oregon National Guard could not perform its mission without the support of the civilian workforce, families, employers and communities around Oregon; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, we, the **Douglas County Board of Commissioners, Tim Freeman, Tom Kress, and Chris Boice**, do hereby recognize Saturday, December 13, 2025, as the 389<sup>th</sup> Birthday of the National Guard and proclaim this day as **National Guard Day** in Douglas County, asking all of our citizens honor and support the men and women serving in the Oregon National Guard.

**DATED THIS 10<sup>th</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER 2025**

  
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Commissioner Tim Freeman, Chair

  
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Commissioner Tom Kress

  
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Commissioner Chris Boice

