Mecklenburg County

North Carolina Proclamation

WHEREAS, the residents of Mecklenburg County have great respect, admiration, and the utmost gratitude for all the men and women who have selflessly served our country and this community in the Armed Forces; and

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

WHEREAS, Mecklenburg County seeks to honor individuals who have made countless sacrifices for freedom by placing themselves in harm's way for the good of all; and

WHEREAS, veterans continue to serve our community in the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, religious groups, civil service, and by functioning as County Veterans Service Officers in 29 states to help fellow former service members access more than \$52 billion in federal health, disability and compensation benefits each year; and

WHEREAS, approximately 200,000 service members transition to civilian communities annually; and an estimated 20 percent increase of service members will transition to civilian life in the near future; and

WHEREAS, studies indicate that 44-72 percent of service members experience high levels of stress during transition from military to civilian life; and

WHEREAS, active military service members transitioning from military service are at a high risk for suicide during their first year after military service; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Counties encourages all counties, parishes and boroughs to recognize Operation Green Light for Veterans; and

WHEREAS, Mecklenburg County appreciates the sacrifices of our United States military personnel and believes specific recognition should be granted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with designation as a Green Light for Veterans County, that the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners does hereby proclaim November 4-11, 2025, as

"OPERATION GREEN LIGHT FOR VETERANS"

in Mecklenburg County and will participate in this initiative with the lighting of our Uptown Charlotte skyline green and encourage all citizens to join us in this special observance and to recognize the importance of honoring all those who made immeasurable sacrifices to preserve freedom by displaying green lights in a window of their place of business or residence during that week.

This 5th day of November 2025

Mark D. Jerrell, Chair

Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners