

A PURPLE HEART CITY

- WHEREAS, The City of Rochester in the state of Minnesota 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 State 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 Rochester metropolitan area has a large, highly decorated veteran population including many Purple Heart recipients; and
- WHEREAS, Rochester 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, Ardell F. Brede, Mayor of the City of Rochester, Minnesota do hereby proclaim the City of Rochester as

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and encourage the citizens of the City of Rochester 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 set my hand and caused the corporate seal of the City of Rochester to be affixed this 20th day of November, 2017.

Ardell F. Brede, Mayor
City of Rochester, Minnesota