



WHEREAS, on September 11, 2001, terrorists hijacked and diverted four planes above the Eastern Seaboard; and,

WHEREAS, at 8:46 am and 9:03 am, American Airlines Flight 11 and United Airlines Flight 175, carrying a combined 157 souls, crashed through the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City; and,

WHEREAS, 34 minutes later, American Airlines Flight 77 and the 64 individuals on board crashed into the Pentagon in our nation's capital; and,

WHEREAS, learning of their impending fate, the passengers and crew members of United Airlines Flight 93 courageously chose to spend their last minutes on earth fighting the hijackers, causing a crash that diverted the plane from the terrorists' intended target; and,

WHEREAS, tens of thousands of first responders, including firefighters, police officers, and military members, as well as volunteers and neighbors across the country, answered the call to serve on behalf of their fellow Americans; and,

WHEREAS, the perpetrators, who tried to break the spirit of the American people and crush the values that we hold dear, were met by the efforts of a nation united in mourning and remembrance; and,

WHEREAS, we also honor the memory of the nine Illinoisans who were killed on this day - Kathy Bantis (44 years old), Andrea Lyn Haberman (25), Suzanne Kondratenko (27), and Susan Sauer (48), all of Chicago and in the North Tower; Darya Lin (32) of Chicago and Robert Arthur Rasmussen (42) of Hinsdale, both in the South Tower; Jeffrey Peter Mladenik (43) of Hinsdale, on Flight 11; and Lieutenant Commander Patrick Jude Murphy (38) of Flossmoor and Commander Dan Frederic Shanower (40) of Naperville, both at the Pentagon; and,

WHEREAS, the United States Congress declared September 11 as Patriot Day, a day of remembrance and national mourning; and,

WHEREAS, the heroism of every person who sought to help their fellow Americans on this tragic day serves as an enduring example of courage, and the victims of these abhorrent attacks live forever in our collective consciousness;

THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim September 11, 2026, as **Patriot Day** in Illinois, and order all persons or entities governed by the Illinois Flag Display Act to fly their flags at half-staff from sunrise to sunset on this day, in honor and remembrance of the heroes of September 11, 2001, and the thousands of individuals who lost their lives.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.



Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,
this SECOND *day of* SEPTEMBER, *in*
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
TWENTY-SIX, *and of the State of Illinois,*
two hundred and SEVENTH.

Alexi Giannouch
SECRETARY OF STATE

JB Pritzker
GOVERNOR