

Proclamation

by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** our health, safety, and well-being are often dependent on the commitment of all first responders, including law enforcement officers, firefighters, emergency medical personnel, safety service patrol operators, DOT and public works crews, and tow operators who respond to traffic incidents and conduct valuable and often life-saving operations on the roadside; and
- Whereas,** these on-scene personnel provide a critical public service and are called to duty at all hours of the day and night, in adverse conditions, and in a dangerous roadside environment; and
- Whereas,** many traffic incident management responders are seriously injured or lose their lives each year while performing their duties as a result of being struck by speeding, impaired, drowsy, or distracted motorists and motorists who are not aware of Slow Down, Move Over laws; and
- Whereas,** responder and response vehicle strikes also result in life-altering injury or death of the involved motorist and passengers, and place upstream road users at greater risk of a crash; and
- Whereas,** the Great State of West Virginia has a Slow Down, Move Over law and is committed to protecting the traffic incident management responders who are at the scene of roadway crashes; and
- Whereas,** many motorists are unaware of, or do not adhere to, Driver Removal laws, which aim to move vehicles out of travel lanes after minor traffic incidents to improve road user and responder safety; and
- Whereas,** the Mountain State asks all road users to do their part in keeping everyone who responds to traffic incidents safe by following the Slow Down, Move Over and Driver Removal laws and by driving safely; and
- Whereas,** the week of November 18-22, 2024 is set aside to recognize our crash responders and focus efforts on their safety.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *November 18-22, 2024* as:

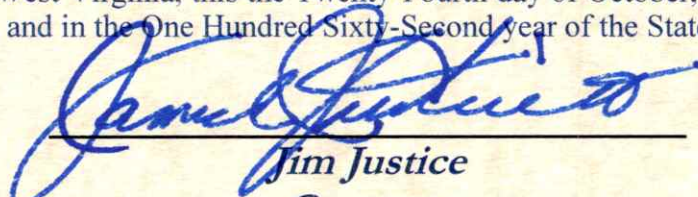
Crash Responder Safety Week

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to join me in observance by opening a door for someone, paying it forward in a drive through line, or hosting an event out of kindness

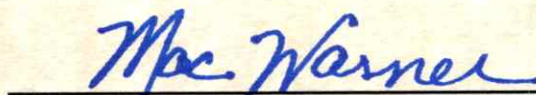
In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Twenty-Fourth day of October, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Four, and in the One Hundred Sixty-Second year of the State.




Jim Justice
Governor

By the Governor:


Mac Warner
Secretary of State