

**R1** Adopt a proclamation which designates October 3, 2023, as "Global War on Terrorism and Desert Storm Veterans Appreciation Day" in Shasta County.

STAFF REPORT

**BOARD MEETING DATE:** October 3, 2023

**CATEGORY:** Board Matters 1

**SUBJECT:** Adopt a proclamation which designates October 3, 2023, as “Global War on Terrorism and Desert Storm Veterans Appreciation Day” in Shasta County.

**DEPARTMENT:** Veterans Services Office

**SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT #:** All

**DEPARTMENT CONTACT:** Wesley Tucker, Veteran Services Officer, (530) 225-5616

**STAFF REPORT APPROVED BY:** Wesley Tucker, Veteran Services Officer

<u>Vote Required?</u> Simple Majority Vote	<u>General Fund Impact?</u> No General Fund Impact
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**RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt a proclamation which designates October 3, 2023, as “Global War on Terrorism and Desert Storm Veterans Appreciation Day” in Shasta County.

**DISCUSSION**

Operation Desert Storm began January 17, 1991, after Saddam Hussein and Iraqi forces invaded neighboring Kuwait and refused to withdraw. The conflict is now commonly known as the Gulf War. From start to finish, Desert Storm only lasted 43 days, from January 17 to February 28, 1991. In fact, the land campaign is infamously known as the "100-hour ground war".

The Global War on Terrorism kicked off after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. The initial invasion of Afghanistan began October 7, 2001, and was dedicated to pushing back the Taliban and Al-Qaeda terrorist organizations. In March 2003, the air and ground invasion of Iraq commenced. The invasion was in response to Iraq harboring Al-Qaeda terrorists as well as military intelligence believing the existence of Iraq having weapons of mass destruction. On December 13, 2003, Saddam Hussein was Captured and would be tried and executed for countless crimes against humanity. On May 2, 2011, Osama Bin Laden was killed by US Forces in a Special Operations Compound Raid. The war on terror continued and the United States encountered a new threat to freedom known as ISIS. The Global War on Terror lasted twenty years until the final pull out of Afghanistan in 2021.

Between Operation Desert Storm and the Global War on Terrorism, millions of American service members have deployed around the world defending freedom. Over 7,300 American service members died in combat operations, over 50,000 were wounded, and over 31,000 have committed suicide.

By establishing October 3, 2023, as “Global War on Terrorism and Desert Storm Veterans Appreciation Day” in Shasta County, we are honoring those who have served and given their lives in protecting the freedom of this great nation. Additionally, it honors those who have suffered the visible and invisible wounds of war, and bonds our community by stating aloud, that these veterans are appreciated, and that they are not alone.

This proclamation is being presented to Sergeant First Class Matthew James Hart and the Redding Army Recruiting Company.

**ALTERNATIVES**

The Board could choose not to adopt the proclamation or may defer the proclamation to a later date.

**OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT**

The recommendation has been reviewed by the County Administrative Office.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

There is No Additional General Fund Impact with approval of the recommendation.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1: Global War on Terrorism/Desert Storm Proclamation

# Shasta County Board of Supervisors Proclamation

Global War on Terrorism and Desert Storm  
Veterans Appreciation Day  
October 7, 2023

*WHEREAS*, we celebrate the memory of 7,300 American men and women who made the supreme sacrifice defending the freedom of the United States from the evils of terrorism fighting in Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, and Pakistan and fighting for the independence of the citizens in Kuwait during Desert Storm; and

*WHEREAS*, we honor of the over 50,000 Americans wounded during the Global War on Terrorism operations and the over 1,000 Americans wounded during Desert Storm; and

*WHEREAS*, we pay tribute to the millions of Americans who deployed, fought, and scarified for our Country's freedom, we know our solemn responsibilities are to those who served, to our fallen, and to their loved ones; and

*WHEREAS*, we pay tribute to the American patriots who fought for freedom and democracy throughout the Middle East, Northern Africa, and the European theater, leaving behind everyone they loved to ensure the blessings of liberty for every man, woman, and child; and

*WHEREAS*, we will never stop working to live up to our obligations to honor the memory as well as to support the families of the more than 31,000 post-9/11 American service members who have committed suicide due to the burden of freedom they voluntarily shouldered.

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED* that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Shasta do hereby proclaim October 7, 2023, as Global War on Terrorism and Desert Storm Veterans Appreciation Day. On this day, we encourage all Americans to reflect on the strength, sacrifices, and sense of duty of our Veterans and bestow upon them the high honor they deserve. We call upon all Shasta County residence to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities that honor and give thanks to our distinguished Middle East War Veterans.

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Patrick Jones, Chair

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October 3, 2023

Date