

Volunteer and professional firefighters are members of America's most hazardous profession. More than half of the injuries in fires each year are sustained by firefighters, over 55,000 each year.

Numerous churches and many denominations have indicated a desire to participate in a designated Memorial Sunday honoring these consecrated firefighters for their ultimate sacrifices for their fellowmen.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Sunday, October 7, 1979, as Firefighters' Memorial Sunday.

Because of my grave concern for the firefighters of this country, I have urged the Federal government to undertake numerous programs aimed at reducing the dangers faced by this country's firefighters. We must do more to reverse the trend toward more injuries and deaths of firefighters.

This year the 50-year dream of a National Fire Academy became a reality. At that site, firefighters from across the Nation can receive advanced training and education in health and safety. I invite the firefighters of the country to take full advantage of this long-awaited facility.

I also call upon the members of the Joint Council of National Fire Service Organizations, members of the International Association of Fire Fighters, members of the International Association of Fire Chiefs, the National Fire Protection Association, all other organizations concerned with fire safety, and the United States Fire Administration to provide leadership and innovation to protect the lives of America's volunteer and professional firefighters.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fifteenth day of August, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fourth.

JIMMY CARTER

Proclamation 4672 of August 15, 1979

Fire Prevention Week, 1979

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Fire causes more loss of life and property in the United States than all other natural disasters combined. Fire is the second most frequent cause of accidental death in the home. Volunteer and professional firefighters bear a disproportionate burden of the human costs of fire; firefighting is still America's most hazardous profession.

Last year 8,700 Americans died, 280,000 were injured in fires and \$5 billion in property was lost. America's loss to fire is among the very highest in the industrialized world.

As evidence of my strong personal concern about our fire problem, I have implemented a Reorganization Plan that puts the Federal government's principal fire programs in the new Federal Emergency Management Agency. This agency now coordinates America's disaster preparedness and response efforts. But the Federal government alone cannot reduce America's

fire losses. The public and private sector must do their part. Together we can lessen this unnecessary, life-threatening destruction.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate October 8–14, 1979, as Fire Prevention Week.

Because fire deaths most often occur in homes, I call upon American families and other property owners to install smoke detectors, to practice exit drills, and to be especially vigilant in guarding against fires.

I encourage the fire service, police, prosecutors, the insurance industry, and government to work together to improve arson detection and prosecution so that we can begin to eliminate this costly, often murderous crime.

I call upon every fire department in the country to teach citizens the fundamentals of basic life support, cardio-pulmonary resuscitation, and to improve the delivery of emergency medical services.

I urge the fire service to fully open their profession to women, and I offer my support to the growing number of professional and volunteer women firefighters.

I encourage the fire service to take full advantage of the National Fire Academy that became a reality this year. The Academy will be an effective tool in providing training and education for the Nation's firefighters.

I support and encourage the cooperative efforts of private enterprise and government in developing low cost residential sprinkler systems that may revolutionize fire safety in the home.

Finally, I call upon members of the Joint Council of National Fire Service Organizations, members of the International Association of Fire Fighters, members of the International Association of Fire Chiefs, the National Fire Protection Association, all other organizations concerned with fire safety, and the United States Fire Administration to provide the leadership, planning and innovation necessary for an effective national fire prevention and control effort.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fifteenth day of August, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fourth.

JIMMY CARTER

Proclamation 4673 of August 16, 1979

General Pulaski's Memorial Day, 1979

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

On the eleventh day of October, the people of the United States will honor the 200th anniversary of the death of the Polish patriot, Casimir Pulaski. On the bicentennial of his death, caused by wounds suffered during the Battle of Savannah, we are reminded of his heroism and his selflessness as he led his famous cavalry unit, The Pulaski Legion, in the struggle for American independence.