

WHEREAS, in 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation which designated May 15th as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which that date falls as “Police Week,” and

WHEREAS, every year since, tens of thousands of law enforcement officers from around the world have converged on Washington, DC to participate in a number of planned events which honor those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice, and

WHEREAS, in 2013 the name of fallen Chapel Hill Police Detective Theodore Roosevelt Cole Jr. was added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial as part of the memorial week in Washington, D.C., and

WHEREAS, Detective Cole was killed in 1969 when his killer, whom Cole had arrested many times, went to Cole’s home off of Piney Mountain Road and shot him without provocation, and

WHEREAS, during the killer’s trial, it was revealed that he tracked Detective Cole as an act of revenge for the previous arrests, and

WHEREAS, Cole had been promoted in 1969 but was killed prior to his promotional ceremony, and

WHEREAS, Detective Cole was posthumously promoted to the rank of Detective at the First Annual Orange County Peace Officers Memorial Service in May of 2012,

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Chapel Hill Town Council, do proclaim our recognition of police officers, past and present, who by their faithful and loyal devotion to their responsibilities have rendered a dedicated service to their communities and, in doing so, have established for themselves an enviable and enduring reputation for preserving the rights and security of all citizens.

This proclamation calls upon citizens to honor those local peace officers who, through their courageous deeds, have lost their lives or have become disabled in the performance of duty, by joining us for the 2018 Orange County Peace Officers Memorial Service to be held on Thursday, May 24, 2018 at 4PM at the Chapel Hill Police Department.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND THE SEAL OF THE TOWN ON THIS
THE TWENTY-THIRD DAY OF MAY, TWO THOUSAND AND
EIGHTEEN.