The men and women of our law enforcement community dedicate their lives to serving the public. Placing others’ safety before their own, they epitomize selflessness, courage and honor.

The risks these men and women encounter every minute of every day are what make their service so heroic. Sadly, peace officers are all too often lost in the line of duty, and over the last several years, Texas has experienced too many of these tragedies. At a time when law enforcement officers increasingly come under assault simply because of the job they hold, our state must stand by those who serve and protect.

In honor of their sacrifice, Texans come together annually to pay special tribute to our fallen heroes and to the entire law enforcement community.

I encourage everyone to join me in honoring the memories of our fellow Texans who have laid down their lives for the benefit of others. All of Texas joins me in thanking the members of law enforcement and their families for their service and sacrifice in keeping Texas safe. As we pay tribute, let us also recognize those who still serve. We owe these courageous men and women an inestimable debt of gratitude for their outstanding service to our state.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim May 15 and May 14–20, 2017, respectively, to be

Peace Officers Memorial Day and Week

in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 25th day of April, 2017.

Governor of Texas