

A Proclamation
By
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, September 11, 2002, will be the first anniversary of unprecedented terrorist attacks resulting in a momentous loss of life and property; and

WHEREAS, with hopes of bringing Americans to their knees, instead they brought us to our feet; and

WHEREAS, this anniversary of tragedy is also an anniversary of triumph, a triumph of character—courage over cowardice, kindness over cruelty, service over selfishness, responsibility over indifference, love over hate, hope over fear, and freedom over repression; and

WHEREAS, September 11th should not only be remembered as a day of great misfortune but as a reminder of the great fortune we possess in the character of our people and in living in a country where character counts; and

WHEREAS, it should be a day of reflection and education involving activities that strengthen appreciation of and dedication to the core ethical values that constitute the pillars of the American character such as trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, caring, fairness and good citizenship; and

WHEREAS, it should be a day of action devoted to community service, which improves neighborhoods, eases suffering and reduces injustice while enhancing the lives and strengthening the characters of those who render it:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim September 14, 2002, as

AMERICAN CHARACTER WEEK

in the State of Mississippi and call upon all citizens to demonstrate our respect for the victims of this terrible tragedy and also honor and celebrate the countless acts of courage, compassion, loyalty, responsibility and other qualities that represent the best in human nature and the American character.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, September 6, 2002, in the two hundred and twenty-sixth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR