

State of South Carolina

Proclamation

by
Governor Jim Hodges

- WHEREAS,** on September 11, 2001, America witnessed the senseless loss of more than 3,000 innocent lives as a result of terrorist attacks in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania; and
- WHEREAS,** in response to this tragic sequence of events, our nation has joined together to show that the human spirit is stronger than any cowardly act of terrorism, reaffirming our ability to overcome adversity through our dedicated patriotism and our common commitment to the American values of freedom and justice; and
- WHEREAS,** as leaders in the relief efforts in response to the events of September 11, 2001, and as lifesavers in our communities every day, our nation's emergency workers, firefighters, law enforcement officers and military personnel have consistently demonstrated outstanding courage and an unprecedented commitment to the safety and well-being of our citizens; and
- WHEREAS,** these dedicated public servants, the National Guard, and the United States Military continue to work together to ensure homeland security and secure the right of all Americans to feel safe in their homes, schools, and communities; and
- WHEREAS,** the solemn commemoration of the first anniversary of September 11, 2001, provides a special opportunity to remember and honor the victims of these cowardly acts of terrorism against America, to recognize those first responders who were injured or sacrificed their lives trying to save the lives of others, and to acknowledge the continuing efforts of our state and nation to provide for homeland security; and
- WHEREAS,** appropriate remembrance observances and civic commemorations throughout South Carolina and across the country will serve as forceful reminders of the value and meaning of the life of each person who fell victim to the incomprehensible acts of terrorism on September 11, 2001; and
- WHEREAS,** in honor of all the victims, survivors and their families and in celebration of the countless acts of courage, compassion, loyalty, and responsibility with which our nation has responded to these unprecedented attacks, the Leadership Council of the CHARACTER COUNTS! Coalition will provide millions of young people with an opportunity to learn about the American character that has allowed us to persevere, to celebrate and honor America's heroes, and to encourage public service through "American Character Week"; and
- WHEREAS,** through this and other symbolic acts and memorials, all South Carolinians can reaffirm the unity of our citizenship and the strength of our character, while paying tribute to the collective spirit that has guided our nation throughout its history.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jim Hodges, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 11, 2002, as

9/11 DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

and September 6 – 14, 2002, as

AMERICAN CHARACTER WEEK

throughout the state and encourage schools, youth organizations, community groups, and government agencies to learn more about the lives of Americans of extraordinary character, to recognize those who have demonstrated the highest qualities of citizenship over the past year, to teach our young people about civic duty, and to provide service-learning opportunities to our youth to commemorate the lives lost on September 11, 2001, and to foster a lifelong commitment to community service.



Jim Hodges
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Governor
State of South Carolina