



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Sergeant Matthew Allen Harmon, twenty-nine years of age, was born March 1, 1982 in Bagley, Minnesota and grew up in the town of Lengby, Minnesota; and
- WHEREAS: Sergeant Matthew Allen Harmon graduated from Fosston High School in 2000, where he was active in athletics and theater; and
- WHEREAS: Sergeant Matthew Allen Harmon committed to the Army National Guard during his senior year of high school, attending basic training after graduation; and
- WHEREAS: Sergeant Matthew Allen Harmon attended the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, where he met the love of his life, Nicole. Matt and Nicole married in 2003 and had three children; Danika, Vincent, and Elsie; and
- WHEREAS: Sergeant Matthew Allen Harmon enlisted in the United State Army in 2004. Stationed in Germany, Sergeant Harmon completed two tours of duty in Iraq and was recently deployed to Afghanistan as a member of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment, 172<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Brigade; and
- WHEREAS: Sergeant Matthew Allen Harmon was a hard-working soldier with a model work-ethic and a remarkably loving husband and father to his wife and three children; and
- WHEREAS: Sergeant Matthew Allen Harmon gave the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom and died a hero on Sunday, August 14, 2011 in Afghanistan, after sustaining injuries from the explosion of an improvised explosive device; and
- WHEREAS: Sergeant Matthew Allen Harmon will be forever remembered for his courage and love by his wife, Nicole; daughters, Danika (eight) and Elsie (three); son, Vincent (five); parents, Tom and Irene; sister, Melissa; brothers, Dean and Mark; and countless aunts, uncles, cousins, other relatives, and friends; and
- WHEREAS: A celebration of Matthew's life will be held Saturday, August 27, 2011, in Fosston, Minnesota, followed by interment in Lengby, Minnesota; and
- WHEREAS: The State of Minnesota recognizes Sergeant Matthew Allen Harmon for his dedicated service to and sacrifice for his fellow citizens of Minnesota and the United States of America with its deepest gratitude, and all thoughts and prayers are with his family, friends, and entire community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby order all U.S. flags and Minnesota flags be flown at half-staff at all state and federal buildings in the State of Minnesota, from sunrise until sunset on Saturday, August 27, 2011, in honor and remembrance of Sergeant Matthew Allen Harmon.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 25<sup>th</sup> day of August in the year of our Lord two thousand and eleven, and of the State the one hundred fifty-second.

Handwritten signature of Mark Dayton in black ink.

GOVERNOR

Handwritten signature of Mark Ritchie in blue ink.

SECRETARY OF STATE