



Proclamation

Whereas: Two years ago, Citizens of Virginia Beach experienced an unspeakable tragedy that resulted in the loss of LaQuita C. Brown; Ryan Keith Cox; Tara Welch Gallagher; Mary Louise "Mary Lou" Crutsinger Gayle; Alexander Mikhail Gusev; Joshua O. Hardy; Michelle "Missy" Langer; Richard H. Nettleton; Katherine A. Lusich Nixon; Christopher Kelly Rapp; Herbert "Bert" Snelling, Jr.; and Robert "Bobby" Williams; and

Whereas: Five others were injured — four critically — and many more were seriously impacted, including people who worked in Building Two of the Virginia Beach Municipal Center; family members; friends; City employees; people who rendered emergency medical aid, both on the scene and at area hospitals; police who responded to the scene, stopped the rampage, and prevented the further loss of lives; people who staffed the Emergency Operations Center and Family Assistance Center; City leaders and elected officials to have helped guide the City's recovery efforts; and members of the Virginia Beach community and beyond who have demonstrated compassion and generosity through many acts of kindness; and

Whereas: In the aftermath of this tragedy, people in the community and beyond called on everyone to show Love for VB. That phrase was adopted for use in a number of places across our city — homes, businesses, schools, parks and beyond; and

Whereas: We still mourn the twelve lives lost so suddenly two years ago, and we pray for all those who were traumatized by this brutal act of violence and continue to seek healing; and

Whereas: We are forever changed, and we will never forget. We continue to pledge to commit to honoring those we lost through acts of service and acts of kindness.

Now, Therefore, I, Robert M. Dyer, Mayor of the City of Virginia Beach, do hereby proclaim:

May 31, 2021 Love for VB Dedication Day

In Virginia Beach, and I call on all citizens to remember the victims of the May 31, 2019 tragedy and pledge to honor them through volunteer acts of service. I further order that the flag of the City of Virginia Beach shall be flown at half-staff in all City buildings and on City grounds from May 28 through sunset on May 31, 2021

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia, to be affixed this twenty-first day of May Two Thousand Twenty-One.



Robert M. "Bobby" Dyer
Mayor