

Proclamation

Recognizing National Police Week 2026 in the Borough of Dunellen

WHEREAS, there are more than 800,000 law enforcement officers serving in communities across the United States, including the dedicated members of the Dunellen Police Department; and

WHEREAS, since the first recorded death in 1786, over 24,000 law enforcement officers in the United States have made the ultimate sacrifice and been killed in the line of duty, including 2 members of the Dunellen Police Department, Patrolman William Shields and Chief Patrick Tarpey; and

WHEREAS, in 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation declaring the week of May 15th National Police Week, and since then, tens of thousands of police officers and their families, including those from Dunellen, New Jersey, travel to Washington, D.C. every year to celebrate law enforcement and pay tribute to their fallen brothers and sisters; and

WHEREAS, the names of these dedicated public servants are engraved on the walls of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, DC; and

WHEREAS, 363 new names of fallen heroes were added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial this spring, including 109 officers killed in 2025 and 254 officers who died in previous years; and


WHEREAS, May 15 is designated as Peace Officers Memorial Day, in honor of all fallen officers and their families, and U.S. flags should be flown at half-staff; and

WHEREAS, the Dunellen Police Department, formally organized in August of 1924, has served the residents of Dunellen for 100 years and has seen the tenure of 14 Chiefs of Police and many more patrol officers, protecting and serving the community to keep the peace, protect life and property, and serve all those who call the "Miracle Mile" home; and

WHEREAS, on Monday, May 25, 2026, the Borough of Dunellen and the Dunellen Police Department will honor their fallen heroes with a ceremony at Washington Memorial Park in observance of Memorial Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that I, Mayor Jason F. Cilento, and the Dunellen Borough Council declare that all in the Borough of Dunellen observe May 10-16, 2026, as National Police Week, and publicly salute the service of law enforcement officers in our community and in communities across the nation.

Proclaimed this 4th Day of May, 2026



Jason F. Cilento, Mayor
Borough of Dunellen