

## **PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, fire protection services in the City of Alexandria began in 1774 with the establishment of the Friendship Fire Company, and continued with the establishment of the volunteer Sun, Hydraulion, Relief and Star Fire Companies; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 13, 1866, the Alexandria City Council passed “an act to organize a Paid Fire Department;” and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Aldermen approved the resolution on July 10, 1866, and the Common Council approved it on August 24, 1866; and

**WHEREAS**, the resolution was published in the Alexandria Gazette on September 11, 1866, 135 years to the day before the Alexandria Fire Department responded to the attack on the Pentagon; and

**WHEREAS**, over the course of its first 150 years, the Alexandria Fire Department has protected the life and property of residents, businesses, and visitors through fire prevention and suppression, emergency medical, hazardous materials response, technical rescue, arson investigation, marine operations, emergency management, and community outreach services; and

**WHEREAS**, today the Alexandria Fire Department operates 10 stations across nearly 16 square miles and comprises approximately 275 firefighters, paramedics, fire marshals, and support staff; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alexandria Fire Department works closely with the Alexandria Volunteer Fire Department, which traces its history over more than two hundred years; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alexandria Fire Department will celebrate the first 150 years of its history with events and commemorations throughout 2016.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, ALLISON SILBERBERG**, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, an on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, hereby recognize 2016 as the:

### **“150<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY YEAR OF THE ALEXANDRIA FIRE DEPARTMENT”**

and congratulate the members, past and present, of the Alexandria Fire Department for their untiring devotion to duty in protecting the lives and property of the Alexandria community.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 9<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2016

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**ALLISON SILBERBERG    MAYOR**

On behalf of the City Council  
of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST:

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Jacqueline M. Henderson, MMC City Clerk