



CITY OF PENDERGRASS
GEORGIA

Pride, Progress, Possibilities...
65 Smith Bridges Road
P.O. Box 95
Pendergrass, Georgia 30567
706.693.2494

Mayor Melvin Tolbert
Councilman Harlan Robinson
Councilman Willie Pittman

Councilman Nathaniel Pruitt
Councilwoman Sabrina Guevara
City Clerk Renee Martinez

**PROCLAMATION
HONORING CHIEF JOSEPH W. WIRTHMAN
JEFFERSON POLICE DEPARTMENT**

WHEREAS, Chief Joseph W. Wirthman began his law enforcement career in 1977 in the State of Florida, and was ultimately appointed Chief of Police at the Jefferson Police Department in Georgia in September 2006; and

WHEREAS, through Chief Wirthman's efforts, National Police Week in May of each year is celebrated in our community at an annual event organized and spearheaded by Chief Wirthman personally; and

WHEREAS, since the first known line-of-duty death in 1786, more than 22,000 U.S. law enforcement officers have made the ultimate sacrifice, including our own Officer Chris Ruse; and

WHEREAS, in 1962, President Kennedy issued the first proclamation for Peace Officers Memorial Day and National Police Week to remember and honor law enforcement officers for their service and sacrifices. Peace Officers Memorial Day, which every year falls on May 15, specifically honors law enforcement officers killed or disabled in the line of duty; and

WHEREAS, Chief Wirthman oversees the Roll Call of Heroes each year during this ceremony, whereby Pendergrass Officer Chris Ruse is remembered for his sacrifice.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Pendergrass, Georgia, that they hereby commend Chief Joseph W. Wirthman of the Jefferson Police Department for his outstanding service to the citizens of Jackson County and specifically to our local law enforcement community and wish to relay our heartfelt appreciation for helping make National Police Appreciation week a special and reverent time for those of us who have lost an officer in the line of duty. We are very thankful for your dedication and leadership in our local law enforcement community and your legacy of service to all. On behalf of the City of Pendergrass, Georgia, you have our eternal gratitude.

PROCLAIMED this 25th day of May, 2021.

Melvin H. Tolbert
Melvin Tolbert, Mayor

Chief John B...
Harlan Robinson
Willie Pittman
Nathaniel Pruitt

Attest:
Renee Martinez
Renee Martinez, City Clerk