



GOVERNOR PROCLAMATIONS

The Administrative Procedure Act (APA) requires the publication of Governor proclamations of general applicability, and ceremonial dedications issued by the Governor.

THANKSGIVING DAY

[M15-314]

WHEREAS, President George Washington, at the request of Congress, proclaimed the first national Thanksgiving Day, November 26, 1789, as “a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many signal favors of Almighty God”; and

WHEREAS, President Abraham Lincoln, in 1863, proclaimed the last Thursday of November as the annual date for the national Thanksgiving Day; and

WHEREAS, on December 26, 1941, President Franklin Roosevelt signed a joint resolution of Congress changing the national Thanksgiving Day from the last Thursday in November to the fourth Thursday.

WHEREAS, the State of Arizona designated its motto as *Ditat Deus* - God Enriches, which acknowledges the blessings of God; and

WHEREAS, on Thanksgiving Day, Arizonans and all Americans come together to enjoy the fellowship of family and friends with a feast that symbolizes the many blessings in our lives; and

WHEREAS, Thanksgiving is a time to gather in a spirit of gratitude with one another, and it is also an opportunity to serve others and to share our prosperities with those in need; and

WHEREAS, as Arizonans, we pause to consider our good fortune as American citizens and residents of this great State, and we are mindful of the heroic men and women, and their families, serving in our Armed Forces, especially those serving abroad.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, do proclaim November 26, 2015, as

THANKSGIVING DAY

and I further encourage all citizens to pray or reflect and give thanks for the rich blessings of our State and our Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona

Douglas A. Ducey
GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this twenty-third day of November in the year Two Thousand and Fifteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Fortieth.

ATTEST:
Michele Reagan
SECRETARY OF STATE

**VICTIMS' BILL OF RIGHTS DAY**

[M15-313]

WHEREAS, on Tuesday, November 6, 1990 the voters of Arizona passed an amendment to the Arizona Constitution that enacted the Victims' Bill of Rights (VBR) for crime victims;

WHEREAS, on November 27, 1990, the VBR became effective and established a new era of hope that the rights of victims to justice and due process would be preserved and protected;

WHEREAS, this year marks the 25th Anniversary of the establishment of victims' rights in Arizona;

WHEREAS, in the intervening 25 years, Arizona has become a transformational national leader in the enactment and enforcement of the rights of crime victims;

WHEREAS, across Arizona dedicated victim advocates, law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and judges have been faithful to these constitutional rights;

WHEREAS, despite these significant gains, challenges remain to protect the rights of victims to justice and due process, among others, the rights to a speedy trial and to be heard at all critical stages, and renewed efforts must be made to preserve and protect all rights for crime victims; and

WHEREAS, the victims' rights enjoyed by Arizonans should be the birthright of every person in the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of Arizona, hereby proclaim November 27, 2015 as

VICTIMS' BILL OF RIGHTS DAY

and:

1. Call on all Arizonans to celebrate with thanks the passage of the Victims' Bill of Rights;
2. Call on all those in the criminal justice system to fully and fairly enforce all the rights of crime victims; and
3. Call on the Congress to send to the States for ratification an amendment to the U.S. Constitution to establish rights for all crime victims.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona

Douglas A. Ducey
GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this twenty-third day of November in the year Two Thousand and Fifteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Fortieth.

ATTEST:

Michele Reagan
SECRETARY OF STATE