

State of West Virginia

Jim Justice

Governor

WHEREAS, West Virginia is the first state to publicly recognize and support the Society of the Honor Guard, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier; and

WHEREAS, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is Arlington National Cemetery's most iconic memorial; and

WHEREAS, the neoclassical, white marble sarcophagus stands atop a hill overlooking Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, since 1921, it has provided a final resting place for one of America's unidentified World War I service members, and Unknowns from later wars were added in 1958 and 1984. The Tomb has also served as a place of mourning and a site for reflection on military service; and

WHEREAS, the Society of the Honor Guard is a non-profit association organized expressly for and wholly committed to preserving the unique history of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, honoring and remembering the service and sacrifice of the Unknown servicemen buried on the east plaza of the Memorial Amphitheater as well as the empty crypt dedicated to our nations missing, and protecting and enhancing the welfare and image of the Honor Guard, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier past and present; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the Society is to make certain that the individuals that made the ultimate sacrifice of their life for our freedom are not forgotten, and that the general public understands this price of freedom; and

WHEREAS, the membership of the Society is made up of former and current Tomb Guards, and individuals and organizations who have an affinity for the Society mission; and

Whereas, the Society welcomes the opportunity to share our mission through our community outreach programs and events; and

Now, therefore, I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby bestow upon the Society of the Honor Guard, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier this proclamation to recognize the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in the Mountain State and encourage citizens to join me in this observance.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia, the Twentieth day of February, in the year of our Lord, 2023.

Jim Justice
Jim Justice
Governor