



## OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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## NEWS RELEASE

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Date: 5/16/16

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### WELD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PROCLAIM MAY 15-21 AS WELD COUNTY POLICE OFFICERS WEEK

WELD COUNTY, CO – The Weld County Board of Commissioners proclaim May 15-21, 2016, as National Weld County Police Officers Week. The week is dedicated to honoring law enforcement officers who work tirelessly to fight against crime and to protect individual rights.



*From left: Commissioner Sean Conway, Commissioner Julie Cozad, Sheriff Steve Reams, Commissioner Mike Freeman, Commissioner Barbara Kirkmeyer and Commissioner Steve Moreno proclaimed May 15-21 as Weld County Police Officers Week on Monday, May 16, 2016.*

In honor of National Weld County Police Officers Week and National Peace Officers Memorial Day, the Sheriff's Office is hosting a Weld County Fallen Officer Memorial Tribute Ceremony on Thursday, May 19 at 6:30 p.m. The ceremony will take place at the Fallen Officers' Memorial in Bittersweet Park located at 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 16<sup>th</sup> Street in Greeley and will be followed by a BBQ. This is a family-friendly event, and the public is encouraged to attend.

"The Board would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the law enforcement officers who work each day to protect our community and defend our rights," said Commissioner Chair Mike Freeman. "We also want to take a moment to remember the service and sacrifice made by the officers who lost their lives."

Colorado. Weld County has lost seven Officers, Troopers and Deputies in the line of duty: Officer Lee Whitman (Greeley Police Department), Deputy Earl Bucher (Weld County Sheriff's Office), Trooper Wallace McCarty (Colorado State Patrol), Officer Richard Ware (Evans Police Department), Officer James Longworth (Greeley Police Department), Officer Richard Hart (Firestone Police Department) and Deputy Sam Brownlee (Weld County Sheriff's Office).

In 2015, every 69 hours, an American Law Enforcement Officer died in the line of duty somewhere in the United States, and throughout the year, 128 men and women lost their lives while on duty, including four officers from

For more information about fallen officers in Weld County, visit the Fallen Heroes tab on the Weld County Sheriff's Office web page at [www.weldsheriff.com](http://www.weldsheriff.com).

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