STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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OKLAHOMA SECRETARY OF STATE

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

Whereas, *the soldiers and airmen of the Oklahoma National Guard, home of the 45th Infantry Division, have served with distinction since 1895 as first the Territorial Militia and then, since statehood, as the National Guard, protecting and defending the citizens of the state and the nation in times of natural disaster, civil unrest, terrorism, and war; and*

Whereas, *members of the Oklahoma National Guard are deserving of proper recognition for their honorable service and many have made the ultimate sacrifice for freedom and democracy in defending our great nation and state against grave perils; and*

Whereas, *nearly 200 Oklahoma National Guard citizens-soldiers have been wounded or killed in combat since September 11, 2001; and*

Whereas, *members of the Oklahoma National Guard exhibited tremendous courage, bravery, and sacrifice from its first mobilization to defend the border with Mexico in 1916, to a thousand emergency activations over a hundred years to protect life and property following natural disasters and civil unrest; to worldwide deployments that include Great Britain, France, and Germany in World War I; North Africa and all of Europe in World War II; Japan and Korea in the Korean War, Guam, South Vietnam, and the Philippine Islands during the Vietnam War; all of Southwest Asia during Operation Desert Storm; peacekeeping operations in Bosnia; rescue and recovery operations following the bombing of the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City; Multinational Force and Observers operations in the Sinai; multiple deployments since 9/11 to Germany, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq, Afghanistan, Egypt, Oman, Qatar, Uzbekistan and the Republic of Djibouti;*

Now, therefore, I, Mary Fallin, *Governor of the State of Oklahoma, do hereby proclaim April 9, 2013 as*

"Oklahoma National Guard and 45th Infantry Division Appreciation Day"

in the State of Oklahoma.

In Witness Whereof, *I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Oklahoma to be affixed.*

Done at the Capitol, in the City of Oklahoma City, this 4th *day of* April *, in the Year of Our Lord two thousand and* thirteen *, and of the State of Oklahoma in the* one hundred and fifth *year.*

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ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE

Mary Fallin

GOVERNOR