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SEP 27 2013

OKLAHOMA SECRETARY OF STATE

# STATE OF OKLAHOMA

## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

# Proclamation

**Whereas**, *there exists a long line of heroes, selfless patriots, who have defended our lives and liberties with valor and honor. They have been ordinary Oklahomans who loved their country so profoundly they were willing to give their lives to keep it safe and free; and*

**Whereas**, *as we pay tribute to the valiant men and women in uniform, lost in battle, we also recognize the immense loss and remarkable spirit of those who share in that ultimate sacrifice – Oklahoma's Gold Star Families; and*

**Whereas**, *for those in our Armed Forces who gave their last full measure of devotion, their loved ones know the high cost of our hard won freedom and security. An empty seat at the table and missed milestones leave a void that can never be filled, yet the legacies of our fallen heroes live on in the people they loved and who love them; and*

**Whereas**, *though our Gold Star Families have sacrificed more than most can ever imagine, they still find the courage and strength to comfort other families, support veterans, and give back to their communities; and*

**Whereas**, *as members of a grateful nation, we owe a debt we can never repay, but hold this sacred obligation forever in our hearts, minds, and actions; and*

**Whereas**, *Gold Star Families inspire us all with their deep devotion to family and country. These extraordinary families serve their communities, dedicate their time to help members of our Armed Forces and veterans, and bring comfort and hope to families whose loved ones laid down their lives in the defense of our liberty; and*

**Whereas**, *on this day, we honor our country's Gold Star Families and remember their dear relative's noble service and valor. We offer them our deepest gratitude and our most sincere admiration;*

**Now, therefore, I, Mary Fallin**, *Governor of the State of Oklahoma, do hereby proclaim September 29, 2013 as*

**"Gold Star Family 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* 27th *day of* September, *in the Year of Our Lord two thousand and* thirteen, *and of the State of Oklahoma in the* one hundred and fifth year.

Mary Fallin

GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Chris Morris

SECRETARY OF STATE

Assistant

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