

**PROCLAMATION HONORING CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 2
CHRISTOPHER R. THIBODEAU**

WHEREAS, the citizens of Chester Township, Ohio, gather this Memorial Day to honor all the brave men and women who have given the ultimate sacrifice in service to the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, May 26th, 2026, marks the 15th anniversary of his ultimate sacrifice, today we specifically honor the memory and heroic legacy of Army Chief Warrant Officer 2 Christopher R. Thibodeau, a beloved son of Chester Township, a graduate of West Geauga High School (Class of 2000) and Case Western Reserve University (Class of 2004); and

WHEREAS, Christopher the oldest of three children born to Robert and Doreen Thibodeau, was once a member of the West Geauga High School Band and as a young man performed "Taps" at these very Memorial Day ceremonies; and

WHEREAS, Chief Warrant Officer Thibodeau transformed a childhood dream of flight that began at age eight, into a distinguished career as a highly skilled AH-64D Apache attack pilot assigned to the 1st Battalion, 4th Combat Aviation Brigade at Fort Hood, Texas; and

WHEREAS, on May 26, 2011, while supporting Operation Enduring Freedom in the Paktika Province of Afghanistan, Chief Warrant Officer Thibodeau died from injuries sustained when his helicopter crashed during combat operations; and

WHEREAS, for his exceptional service and valor, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Thibodeau was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star Medal and the Purple Heart, adding to an already distinguished record;

WHEREAS, Christopher is remembered by his parents Robert and Doreen, his siblings Nicole and Michael, his wife Leesandra, and his son Liam, where his legacy lives on, and many other family, friends, and fellow soldiers as a man of extraordinary character, wit, and kindness; and

WHEREAS, the community of Chester Township continues to hold his sacrifice in the highest regard, where a portion of U.S. Route 322 is named in his honor to ensure that Christopher remains forever etched in the heart of his hometown; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE PROCLAIMED by the Chester Township Elected Officials, County of Geauga, State of Ohio that this Memorial Day, May 25th, 2026, in Chesterland, Ohio, as a day to uniquely recognize:

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 2 CHRISTOPHER R. THIBODEAU

On behalf of the Chester Community, we extend our deepest gratitude to the Thibodeau family, remembering that our freedom is maintained by the selfless service of heroes like Christopher.



Craig S. Richter, Chairman

Signed this 25th day of May, 2026



Patricia Jarrett, Fiscal Officer



Ken Radtke Jr., Vice-Chairman



Brandon Davis, Trustee