

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 1544

WHEREAS, Mississippi mourns the passing of Hancock County Deputy Sheriff, Lieutenant Michael Anthony Boutte, a courageous officer, who was tragically killed in the line of duty on February 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Boutte, of Carriere, Mississippi, was born on August 26, 1963, in New Orleans, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from John McDonough High School in New Orleans, Louisiana, Lieutenant Boutte joined the United States Air Force in 1981. He was first assigned to Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana and during his service was deployed during Operation Desert Storm; and

WHEREAS, after his service to our nation in the USAF, Lieutenant Boutte attended the South Dakota Law Enforcement Training Center in 1992, and began his law enforcement career in Grand Rapids, South Dakota; and

WHEREAS, in 1996, he attended the Washington State Criminal Justice Center and became a founding member of the City of Federal Way Department of Public Safety in Federal Way, Washington; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, Lieutenant Boutte relocated to Mississippi and joined the Picayune Police Department, and in 2016, joined the ranks of the Hancock County Sheriff's Office where he achieved the rank of Lieutenant; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Boutte was awarded the Life Saving Medal for saving a child's life and was also instrumental in spearheading a National Crime Night Out initiative, among other accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Boutte was a selfless and courageous officer who was devoted to justice, equality and service to others. The outpouring of love and the mourning of the loss of this fallen hero reflect the deep gratitude from the people of the State of Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, the prayers of this State are with his wife, Jennifer Mann-Boutte, his son, Michael Boutte, Jr., his daughter, Jessica Boutte, his step-daughter, Alexis Russell, his grandchildren, other family members and many friends and colleagues:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tate Reeves, by the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and laws of the State of Mississippi, do hereby proclaim a day of official mourning in the State of Mississippi in memory of Lieutenant Michael Anthony Boutte, and direct that all flags of the United States of America and the State of Mississippi be flown at half-staff on all buildings and grounds of the State of Mississippi and all areas under its jurisdiction beginning at sunrise and ending at sunset on Tuesday, February 9, 2021.




IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE at the Capitol in the City of Jackson, the 5TH day of February, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-fifth.


TATE REEVES
GOVERNOR

BY THE GOVERNOR:


MICHAEL WATSON
SECRETARY OF STATE