



City Council

Special Recognition - National Correctional Officers Week

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Title

Special Recognition - National Correctional Officers Week

Recommended Action

Committee Recommendation:

Not referred to a committee.

City Manager Recommendation:

Recognize the Olympia Police Department Corrections Officers and National Correctional Officers Week.

Report

Issue:

Whether to recognize National Correctional Officers Week and the City of Olympia Corrections Officers.

Staff Contact:

Ronnie Roberts, Chief of Police, Olympia Police Department, 360.753.8409

Presenter(s):

Chandra Brady, Support Administrator, Olympia Police Department

Background and Analysis:

In 1984, President Ronald Reagan issued Proclamation 5187 declaring a National Correctional Officers Week to be observed the first full week of May. President Reagan stated in his proclamation:

“Correctional Officers have the difficult and often dangerous assignment of ensuring the custody, safety and well-being of the over 600,000 inmates in our Nation’s prisons and jails. Their position is essential to the day-to-day operations of these institution; without them it would be impossible to achieve the foremost institutional goals of security and control.”

Historically, correctional officers have been viewed as “guards,” occupying isolated and misunderstood positions in prisons and jails. In recent years, the duties of these officers have become increasingly complex and demanding. They are called upon to simultaneously fill custodial,

supervisory and counseling roles. The professionalism, dedication and courage exhibited by these officers throughout the performance of these demanding and often conflicting roles deserve the utmost respect. The important work of correctional officers often does not receive the recognition from the public it deserves. It is appropriate that we honor the many contributions and accomplishments of these men and women who are a vital component of the field of corrections.

Attachments:

None