



# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, a second responder is a worker who supports "first responders" such as police, fire, and emergency medical personnel. They are involved in communicating, managing, and returning services during and after an event requiring first responders; and

**WHEREAS**, the pandemic impacted the entire community and caused trauma and suffering to many, and second responders, who include staff from both the public and private sectors, have risked their health to provide support to ensure that people can thrive in the face of adversity; and

**WHEREAS**, second responders go above and beyond to provide numerous services to the public, such as outreaching to people experiencing homelessness in the deadly summer heat; providing meals and wellness checks for home-bound older adults; providing counseling and mental health services to those in crisis; providing assistance with housing search and stabilization; ensuring families do not go hungry; helping domestic violence victims safety plan so that they can flee violence; providing transportation to medical appointments; assisting with securing jobs, and finding unique ways to serve the public during the unprecedented challenges of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, the overriding objective of these designated professionals is to enable people to get back to work and ensure the viability, continuity and recovery of economic life for public and private-sector organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, in the Town of Paradise Valley, second responders include our police volunteers who early in the pandemic worked to assist our officers; the resort managers and staff who provided rooms and food for our officers and others exposed to the virus so they didn't have to expose their families; and our houses of worship who opened their facilities for public health efforts such as COVID testing and vaccination distribution; and

**WHEREAS**, within the Paradise Valley organization, second responders included IT staff that made 'remote' work possible for every employee that could work remotely; our Town Clerk who made it possible to switch to virtual meetings and retain the ability for the public to observe and provide input during those public meetings; public works staff that continued throughout the pandemic to maintain and keep systems (like water, air conditioning, public facilities 'touch-free', and road clearing) and further responded to the natural disasters that did not stop, including the impactful monsoon season this year; our administrative staff that continued to provide up-to-date information to the public on the pandemic; and the building inspectors, plan checkers, planners and engineers that continued to process and keep the building industry and all its ancillary businesses working and financially viable for the benefit of our residents; and

**WHEREAS**, many could not have survived the pandemic without the vital services provided by second responders;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jerry Bien-Willner, Mayor of the Town of Paradise Valley, do hereby proclaim September 2021 as

## **SECOND RESPONDERS MONTH**

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have set my hand and caused to be affixed the seal of the Town of Paradise Valley this 9<sup>th</sup> day of September 2021.

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Jerry Bien-Willner, Mayor

Attest:

  
Duncan Miller, Town Clerk