



City of Bellevue | Proclamation

Whereas: International Firefighters' Day is observed annually on May 4 to honor and remember the courageous firefighters who have lost their lives in service to their communities, to express gratitude to those who have served and to recognize those who continue to protect and safeguard our residents today; and

Whereas: this global observance was established following the tragic loss of five firefighters in a wildfire in Victoria, Australia, on December 2, 1998, as a way to honor their sacrifice and recognize the dedication of firefighters worldwide who risk their lives daily in the line of duty; and

Whereas: firefighters face significant personal and physical challenges, demonstrating exceptional bravery and selflessness as they respond to fires, medical emergencies and disasters - often at great personal risk - to protect lives, property and the well-being of their communities; and

Whereas: the Bellevue Fire Department continues to uphold the highest standards of excellence, maintaining its international accreditation from the Commission on Fire Accreditation International since 1998, reflecting the department's ongoing commitment to professionalism, preparedness and public safety; and

Whereas: Bellevue's firefighters serve with dedication, responding at a moment's notice to emergencies, ensuring the safety of individuals and families and supporting the resilience and economic stability of our community.

Now, therefore, I, Mo Malakoutian, Mayor of Bellevue, Washington, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim **May 4, 2026 as**

International Firefighters' Day

in Bellevue and encourage residents to show appreciation for the courage, dedication and sacrifice of our Bellevue Fire Department personnel and firefighters everywhere, while also honoring the memory of those who have given their lives in the line of duty.

Mo Malakoutian, Mayor



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