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 acknowledge 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 unwavering 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,* Lynne Robinson, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington, and on behalf of its City Council, do hereby proclaim Sunday, May 4, as:

## International Firefighter's Day

and encourage all Bellevue residents to show appreciation for the courage, dedication and sacrifices of our Bellevue Fire Department personnel and firefighters everywhere, as well as to honor the memory of those who have given their lives in the line of duty.

Lynne Robinson, Mayor City of Bellevue