Proclamation Recognizing National Veterans Small Business Week and Small Business Saturday 2025

WHEREAS, National Veterans Small Business Week, November 3rd through November 7th, honors and empowers service members, veterans, members of the National Guard and Reserve, and military spouses who contribute to our economy through entrepreneurship; and

WHEREAS, veteran-owned businesses are a vital part of Colorado's economy, representing approximately 6.2 percent of all businesses statewide and owned or co-owned by more than 38,600 veterans; and

WHEREAS, Colorado is home to more than 730,000 small businesses, which make up 99.5 percent of all Colorado businesses and employ over 1.2 million Coloradans -- nearly half (48.6 percent) of the state's private workforce; and

WHEREAS, small businesses remain at the heart of Colorado's economic resilience and innovation, with more than 30,000 new establishments opening between March 2023 and March 2024, resulting in a net gain of 1,189 new businesses and a 6,384-job increase among small firms statewide; and

WHEREAS, veteran entrepreneurs continue to demonstrate leadership and ingenuity by building companies that strengthen communities, create jobs, and contribute to Colorado's diverse economy across industries including professional services, construction, health care, and manufacturing; and

WHEREAS, veteran-owned small businesses exemplify the values of service, perseverance, and commitment, and their continued success is essential to both the state's economic vitality and its proud legacy of supporting those who have served; and

WHEREAS, on November 29 we will celebrate Small Business Saturday supporting the entire small business community, including veterans who have transferred discipline, work ethic, accountability, problem-solving, and adaptability, learned from their time in service, to hundreds of local veteran-owned businesses; and

WHEREAS, National Veterans Small Business Week and National Small Business Saturday exemplify our commitment to honoring and supporting the entrepreneurial spirit of our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of El Paso County, Colorado, hereby recognizes November 3rd through November 7th, 2025, as National Veterans Small Business Week and November 29th as Small Business Saturday, and encourages residents to invest in our community by supporting our local small businesses and helping them thrive.

Done this 28th day of October 2025 at Colorado Springs, Colorado.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF EL PASO COUNTY, COLORADO

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Carrie Geitner, Chair

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Holly Williams, Vice Chair

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Cory Applegate, Member

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Lauren Nelson, Member

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Bill Wysong, Member

ATTEST:

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Steve Schleiker
County Clerk and Recorder