



# Proclamation

## By the Governor of Alabama

*WHEREAS*, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) is a serious mental health condition that can affect individuals of all ages who have experienced or witnessed a traumatic event, often causing symptoms that persist long after the event and interfere with daily life; and

*WHEREAS*, Alabama is home to hundreds of thousands of veterans whose service to our nation often placed them in dangerous and traumatic situations, making them particularly vulnerable to PTSD; and

*WHEREAS*, many veterans continue to face the lasting effects of their military service long after returning to civilian life. It is our civil duty and shared responsibility as Alabamians to ensure our veterans receive the care and support they need to lead healthy and prosperous lives; and

*WHEREAS*, Alabama's first responders – including law enforcement officers, firefighters, emergency medical personnel, corrections officers, dispatchers and other public safety professionals – also face an increased risk of developing PTSD due to repeated exposure to traumatic incidents in the line of duty; and

*WHEREAS*, the Interim Study Commission on PTSD in First Responders, composed of representatives from the Alabama Department of Mental Health, Alabama Law Enforcement Agency, Legislative Services Agency, Association of County Commissions of Alabama, Alabama League of Municipalities, Alabama Fire College and members of the Alabama Legislature, among others, have worked collaboratively to strengthen awareness, communication and support services related to PTSD throughout Alabama; and

*WHEREAS*, Alabama offers a variety of resources for individuals experiencing PTSD and other mental health challenges, including confidential assistance through the 9-8-8 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline, the Connect Alabama app, crisis centers, Vital First Responder training modules, specialized support services and traumatic brain injury referral and assessment resources available through the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services; and

*WHEREAS*, PTSD is treatable, recovery is possible, and increasing awareness can encourage those who are struggling to seek help while fostering communities that support healing and resilience;

*NOW, THEREFORE*, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim June 2026, as

# PTSD Awareness Month

in the state of Alabama. I encourage all citizens to recognize the impact of PTSD on veterans, first responders, military families and all those affected by trauma to support efforts that promote mental health awareness and treatment. Alabama honors the courage of those who seek help and the professionals who provide care and support.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of June 2026.

*Kay Ivey*  
Kay Ivey, Governor