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A RESOLUTION TO HONOR AMERICAN LEGION HAMMOND VICTORY POST 168 COMMANDER ERNEST 'ERNIE' DILLON AND OFFICIALLY NAME THE TRIBUTE TO OUR TROOPS MEMORIAL AT THE INTERSECTION OF LYMAN AVENUE AND DOUGLAS STREET WHERE THE MONON AND ERIELACKAWANNA BIKE TRAIL INTERSECT IN HAMMOND, INDIANA.

WHEREAS, the general membership of The American Legion Hammond Victory Post 168 unanimously approved honoring Commander Ernie Dillon and naming the tribute "Tribute to Our Troops Operation Enduring Freedom Memorial" in Commander Dillon's honor at the monthly meeting on June 4, 2018.

WHEREAS, Commander Dillon served as project coordinator, secured the location, designed, constructed and arranged all funding through sponsorships and has maintained the memorial since November 11, 2013. We greatly appreciate Ernie's dedication and commitment honoring our military families, veterans and those who are currently serving and will serve in the future.

WHEREAS, this memorial was established on November 11, 2013 and is to be dedicated on November 11, 2020 to honor all military persons past, present and future. This includes, but is not limited to, the United States Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard, National Guard and Space Force.

WHEREAS, this tribute to our troops, Operation Enduring Freedom (ongoing since September 11, 2001), shall also include a tribute to "Women at War" since women are approaching 20% of our armed forces and now serve in all ranks and branches of our military. As an example, Barbara M. Barrett was recently appointed as the 25<sup>th</sup> Secretary of the United States Air Force and Space Force. She was also the first woman to land an F-A18 Hornet on an aircraft carrier and trained as an astronaut.

WHEREAS, Veterans Day was the date chosen to honor our memorial and is a public holiday held on the anniversary of the end of World War I (August 1914 - November 11,1918), during which 20 million people died.

WHEREAS, Veterans Day was created to honor U.S. Veterans and victims of

all wars and replaced Armistice Day in 1954 during the 11<sup>th</sup> hour of the 11<sup>th</sup> month when the war ended. The location of this memorial is known to be a "Troop Train Stop Station" where military persons boarded the train to Chicago and deployed across the world.

**WHEREAS,** it is desired that signage similar to the one here will be placed at the "Tribute to our Troops" memorial site:

## A Tribute to Our Troops

Commander Ernest 'Ernie' Dillon

American Legion Hammond Victory Post 168

Established November 11, 2013 – Dedicated November 11, 2020

## Presented by:

### Mayor

Thomas M. McDermott Jr.

## **Hammond City Clerk**

Robert J. Golec

#### **Hammond City Council**

Councilwoman at Large – Katrina D. Alexander
Councilwoman at Large – Janet Venecz
Councilman at Large – Daniel Spitale

1st District Councilman – Mark Kalwinski
2nd District Councilman – Pete Torres
3rd District Councilman – Barry Tyler Jr.

4th District Councilman – William Emerson Sr.
5th District Councilman – Dave Woerpel
6th District Councilman – Scott Rakos

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THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Common Council of the City of Hammond that the Common Council on behalf of the citizens of the City of Hammond duly recognize Ernest 'Ernie' Dillon by including his name to the "Tribute to Troops Memorial" at the intersect of Lyman Avenue and Douglas Street where the Monon and Erie-Lackawanna Bike Train intersect in Hammond, Indiana.

	Voerpel President ond Common Council
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ATTEST: Note ROBERT J. GOLEC, City Clerk

PRESENTED BY ME, the undersigned City Clerk of the City of Hammond to the Mayor said City for approval on the \_\_\_\_day of October, 2020.

ROBERT J. GOLEC, City Clerk

The foregoing Resolution No. <u>£18</u> consisting of three (3) typewritten pages, including this page, approved by the Mayor on the <u>29</u><sup>e</sup> Day of <u>October</u>, 2020.

THOMAS M. MCDERMOTT, JR., Mayor City of Hammond, Indiana

PASSED by the Common Council on the 2 day of October, 2020.

ROBERT J. GOLEC, City Clerk