



GRAND LODGE  
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS  
OF CALIFORNIA  
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GRAND MASTER  
ARTHUR H. WEISS

GRAND MASTER'S PROCLAMATION  
JANUARY 2021 IS **SUPPORT OUR FIRST RESPONDERS MONTH**  
*Embracing the next evolution*

**Whereas** California Masons strive to serve as pillars of society and to recognize, support, and uplift the people and institutions on which our communities rely; and

**Whereas** our state continues to grapple with enormous crises on multiple fronts, including the global Coronavirus pandemic and historic wildfires; and

**Whereas** we all rely on the skill and bravery of more than 4.6 million professional and volunteer firefighters, police, EMTs, and paramedics whose jobs are to keep us safe;

**As grand master, I therefore proclaim January 2021 to be Support Our First Responders Month.**

California Freemasons understand the concept of taking an obligation in support of others. Firefighters, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, and police take one of the most sacred and challenging obligations of all: They are asked to run toward danger, not away from it. For that we all owe them a debt of gratitude, and one that California Masons are eager to recognize. As the past year has shown us more than ever before, our communities rely on the bravery, sacrifice, and service of first responders to shield the rest of us from the perils of an often-dangerous world.

During this month, I encourage California Masonic lodges to honor the efforts of their local first responders and to thank these important members of our community as they see fit—whether through a donation, volunteerism, or lodge recognition. As California Masons embrace the next evolution, it is important we acknowledge the people around us on whom we all rely.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Attest:

Grand Master Arthur H. Weiss

Grand Secretary Allan L. Casalou