



# State of New York

## Executive Chamber

### Proclamation

**Whereas**, liberty, freedom and justice are ideals guaranteed to Americans in our precious Constitution and symbolized in the cherished Stars and Stripes --- our national flag, which is revered around the world by those who appreciate the blessings of democracy; and

**Whereas**, the State of New York and its citizens have a long legacy of support for patriotic and educational programs celebrating our proud heritage as Americans; one such important and historic observance being Flag Day, June 14, the anniversary of the day in 1777 when the Continental Congress adopted the first official national flag; and

**Whereas**, our flag -- its unique design and colors -- evokes patriotic memories from proud Americans. We remember childhood stories of Betsy Ross stitching the first flag for General George Washington. And, we remember how the red, white and blue survived the bombardment of Fort McHenry and inspired Francis Scott Key to write The Star Spangled Banner, our national anthem; and

**Whereas**, the flag stirs other memories. Battle-weary Marines bravely raising Old Glory over a war-ravaged Iwo Jima. Dust encrusted, exhausted firemen hoisting the flag above the remains of the World Trade Center, galvanizing New York and our entire nation in its determination to defeat the cowardly terrorists who would destroy our way of life. Wives, children, and parents proudly and tearfully waving the red, white and blue to welcome home their returning heroes; and

**Whereas**, New York takes special pride in being the first state in 1897 to give official recognition to Flag Day, a holiday celebrating and honoring the American flag and what it has come to stand for and symbolize at home and around the world; and

**Whereas**, maintaining a tradition of respect and reverence for our flag is part of our heritage, preserved by the sacrifices of countless patriots throughout the history of America, from the Minute Men at Bunker Hill struggling to gain our Nation's freedom to our sons and daughters today valiantly defending American and fighting to establish democracies in countries longing to be free.

**Now, Therefore**, I, Eliot Spitzer, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim June 14, 2007, as

### FLAG DAY

in the Empire State.



**G i v e n** under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Albany this fourth day of June in the year two thousand seven.

Governor

Secretary to the Governor