



**Proclamation No. 23-1210  
A Proclamation Recognizing National Service Dog Awareness Month.**

**WHEREAS**, We believe in the joyful, transformative power of the human-canine bond and inclusivity of all people; and

**WHEREAS**, In the United States, 64 million adults and children have a disability and only 16,000 service dogs from accredited training programs exist nationwide - and the need is growing; and

**WHEREAS**, Assistance Dogs International, Inc. (ADI) is a worldwide coalition of not-for-profit programs that train and place Assistance Dogs. Founded in 1986 from a group of seven small programs, ADI has become the leading international authority in the Assistance Dog industry; and

**WHEREAS**, accredited Service Dog organizations and their service dogs empower people with disabilities to lead life with greater independence, by providing best-in-class training, ongoing follow up services and a deeply committed community of support; and

**WHEREAS**, National Service Dog Month aims to educate our community about the benefits of service dogs and the laws protecting them; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Colorado has passed protections for service dogs that go above and beyond the national standards, including giving service dogs in training the same protections as service dogs.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:**

**Section 1.** That the Council of the City and County of Denver shall hereby declare September as National Service Dog Month.

**Section 2.** That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to Grace Hardy, Program Field Representative of Canine Companions.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL September 11, 2023

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PRESIDENT