

PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

Proclamation No. 22-1410 Honoring the Life of Denver Police Officer Richie Rose

WHEREAS, since the Denver Police Department was founded in 1859, 77 officers have lost their lives protecting our city; and

WHEREAS, Denver, Colorado and the nation in the Roaring '20s were in a period of lawlessness partially due to enactment of the 18th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution prohibiting the manufacture, sale or transportation of intoxicating liquors, and gave rise to the development of organized crime and various underworld criminals in Denver with tragic consequences for innocent civilians and law enforcement officers; and

WHEREAS, today, October 31, marks the 100th anniversary of the line of duty death of Denver Police Officer Richie Rose, a tragedy that stunned our community; and

WHEREAS, Richie Rose was born to Italian immigrants Angelo and Mary Grace Rose on Jan. 5, 1892, in North Denver, which produced many Denver leaders, growing up with many other first-generation Americans, raised and educated in the values of hard work and faith in God; and

WHEREAS, Richie Rose married Jennie Urso on June 1, 1914, eventually having five children: Philip, Angelo, Eva, Joseph and Richena, and worked as a machinist for the Union Pacific Railroad in order to support them; and

WHEREAS, it is believed that Richie served the people of Denver as a Special Police Officer and eventually becoming a full-time Denver Police Officer in October 1921; and

WHEREAS, Officer Rose was assigned by the department to investigate many liquor violations in the "Little Italy" area of North Denver, an assignment that created many bitter enemies for him; and

WHEREAS, Officer Rose proved himself to be an exceptional police officer, participating in raids and arrests of moonshiners and bootleggers, and playing a critical role in providing important information in several high-profile cases; and

WHEREAS, on the early morning of Oct. 31, 1922, Officer Rose was ambushed by three gunmen who killed him near his home in the 3700 block of Kalamath Street,

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 remembers and honors the sacrifice of Officer Rose and his family on the 100th anniversary of his death, as it is a reminder of the importance of having the courage to stand up for what is right and just.

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 the Rose family and the Denver Police Museum.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL October 31, 2022

PRESIDENT