



Proclamation No. 22-1207
Recognizing the service of Officer Robert Sandoval

WHEREAS, Hispanic Heritage Month was enacted into law by the United States Congress on August 17, 1988, and signed by President Ronald Reagan; and

WHEREAS, Denver Police Department has a long history of Hispanic leadership and courage within its ranks; and

WHEREAS, Robert Sandoval was born on August 16, 1940 in Trinidad, Colorado, where he played for the local high school in 1957 when they won the state championship; and

WHEREAS, Sandoval joined the Denver Police Department in 1968, and later successfully completed his training and was later assigned the District 2.; and

WHEREAS, rookie Patrolman Robert Sandoval was dispatched to an emergency call for help on October 14, 1969 to assist an elderly resident at 3550 Saint Paul Street. The resident had discovered an intruder had attempted to break into his house through the back door; and

WHEREAS, upon arriving at the residence, Officer Sandoval attempted to investigate, the resident mistook him for the intruder, firing a shot through the door which struck Officer Sandoval in the forehead; and

WHEREAS, Officer Sandoval's wound left him permanently paralyzed and mostly confined to a wheelchair with injuries including frequent seizures and required the need for round the clock care; and

WHEREAS, his parents nobly bore this responsibility for many years until their deaths and afterward his loving niece took over his daily care; and

WHEREAS, Denver Police Officer Robert Eugene Sandoval died on October 29, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Denver Police Department has previously honored three Hispanic officers who lost their lives in the line of duty including Detective Fred Renovato in 1938, Officer Kathleen Garcia in 1981 and Officer Ronald Leon DeHerrera in 1997; and

WHEREAS, during National Police Week of 2022, The Denver Police Department added Robert Eugene Sandoval to this honored group of officers by placing his name on the Fallen Officer Memorial located in front of Denver Police Headquarters; and

WHEREAS, the Denver Police Museum, the Denver Police Department and the National Latino Police Officers Association will be placing a memorial sign at the site of this tragedy during National Hispanic Heritage Month.

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 wishes to recognize the service and sacrifice of Officer Robert Eugene Sandoval and that of his family for the citizens of the City and County of Denver.

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 family of Officer Robert Sandoval.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL September 26, 2022

PRESIDENT