

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CITY OF NEWPORT
CLOSED ON VETERANS DAY
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2014**

The City of Newport offices will be closed on Tuesday, November 11, 2014 for Veterans Day. Essential services such as public safety and utilities are not affected by this closure.

There has been some confusion regarding the actual date of celebration of this holiday. So, here is some history from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. "The Uniform Holiday Bill (Public Law 90-363 (82 Stat. 250)) was signed on June 28, 1968, and was intended to ensure three-day weekends for federal employees by celebrating four national holidays on Mondays: Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Columbus Day. It was thought that these extended weekends would encourage travel, recreational and cultural activities and stimulate greater industrial and commercial production. Many states did not agree with this decision and continued to celebrate the holidays on their original dates.

The first Veterans Day under the new law was observed with much confusion on October 25, 1971. It was quite apparent that the commemoration of this day was a matter of historic and patriotic significance to a great number of our citizens, and so on September 20th, 1975, President Gerald R. Ford signed Public Law 94-97 (89 Stat. 479), which returned the annual observance of Veterans Day to its original date of November 11, beginning in 1978. This action supported the desires of the overwhelming majority of state legislatures, all major veteran's service organizations and the American people.

Veterans Day continues to be observed on November 11, regardless of what day of the week on which it falls. The restoration of the observance of Veterans Day to November 11 not only preserves the historical significance of the date, but helps focus attention on the important purpose of Veterans Day: A celebration to honor America's veterans for

their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.”

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