



OFFICE OF THE STATE ATTORNEY  
415 NORTH ORANGE AVENUE  
ORLANDO, FL 32801  
(407) 836-2400

**November 11, 2021**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT: KEISHA MULFORT**

**STATE ATTORNEY MONIQUE WORRELL'S STATEMENT IN HONOR OF VETERANS DAY**

ORLANDO, FL — The State Attorney's Office for the Ninth Judicial Circuit will be closed today, Thursday, November 11th, in observation of Veterans Day.

Today, we take time to honor the brave and selfless Americans who have served in the United States Armed Forces, and recognize the time, commitment, and sacrifices of these men and women. We also take time today to acknowledge the sacrifices made at home by the families and loved ones of our service members. Veterans Day, originally celebrated as Armistice Day, was first issued on November 11, 1919, by President Woodrow Wilson a year after the end of World War I. The purpose of Armistice Day was to honor the fallen soldiers of the Great War for their sacrifice and bravery. Seven years later, in 1926, Congress adopted a resolution requesting that President Calvin Coolidge issue annual proclamations on November 11th, making Armistice Day a legal holiday.

In 1945, World War II veteran Raymond Weeks had the idea to expand Armistice Day to celebrate all veterans rather than just the ones who died in World War I. He led a delegation to General Dwight Eisenhower, who was all for the idea. Weeks then organized the first Veterans Day celebration in 1945 in Alabama and every year since, until he died in 1985. In 1982, he was honored by President Reagan with the Presidential Citizenship Medal. Weeks was also named the "Father of Veterans Day" by Elizabeth Dole. In 1954, Ed Rees, the U.S. Representative from Emporia, Kansas, presented a bill to establish the holiday to Congress. Eisenhower, who was then the president and also from Kansas, signed the bill into law on May 26, 1954, eight and a half years after Raymond Weeks held the first Veterans Day. After having been through both World War II and the Korean War, the 83rd U.S. Congress — at the urge of the veterans' service organizations — amended the Act of 1938 by striking out the word "Armistice" and inserting the word "Veterans." With the approval of this legislation on June 1, 1954, November 11th became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

Today, let us never forget the commitment our Veterans have made to our country and their families, and our duty to honor them and remember their service in defending the ideals and freedoms that we cherish. We truly appreciate your courage, sacrifice and selflessness.

###

*The Office of the State Attorney for the Ninth Judicial Circuit is represented by The Honorable Monique H. Worrell and serves Orange and Osceola counties in Central Florida. A culturally diverse community, the area is home to nearly 1.4 million residents and is a vacation destination for millions each year. Our office is committed to making Orlando and the surrounding area a vibrant and safe place to live, work and play.*

For general media inquiries, please contact: [PIO@sao9.org](mailto:PIO@sao9.org).

For media records request, please contact: [mediarecordsrequest@sao9.org](mailto:mediarecordsrequest@sao9.org).

For specific media inquiries pertaining to State Attorney Monique Worrell, please contact Keisha Mulfort at [kmulfort@sao9.org](mailto:kmulfort@sao9.org).