

Proclamation

Recognizing September 15 – October 15, 2023 as Hispanic Heritage Month



WHEREAS, in 1988, the United States Congress adopted a resolution designating September 15 to October 15 of each year as National Hispanic Heritage Month and during National Hispanic Heritage Month, the United States celebrates the culture and traditions of Spanish speaking residents who trace their roots to Spain, Portugal, Mexico, Central America, South America, and the Caribbean; and

WHEREAS, residents of Monroe who identify as Hispanic or Latino represent 19% of Monroe's residents and people who identify as Hispanic or Latino are people whose ancestors have lived in the Americas, including lands within today's United States for over 500 Years; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic people continue to be integral to the prosperity of the United States, and Monroe's Hispanic community has had, and continues to have, a profound influence on our city and country by enhancing and shaping our national heritage with centuries old traditions that reflect multiethnic and multicultural customs; and

WHEREAS, *Imagine Monroe* aspires that Monroe is a safe place for everyone, "where everyone feels at home and everyone feels they belong," and as part of realizing *Imagine Monroe*, the City of Monroe recognizes and honors the diverse backgrounds and lived experiences of all residents of our community; and

WHEREAS, the National Council of Hispanic Employment Program Managers' theme for 2023 Hispanic Heritage Month Observance is: "***Todos Somos, Somos Uno: We Are All, We Are One,***" and the theme encourages us to connect with our Hispanic heritage and community.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Geoffrey Thomas, Mayor of the City of Monroe, Washington, do hereby recognize September 15 to October 15, 2023 as

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

and call upon all residents in our community to learn more about the rich Hispanic culture, traditions, and history and celebrate the contributions that have been made to our country and our community by people of Hispanic heritage.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Geoffrey Thomas", written over a horizontal line.

Geoffrey Thomas, Mayor