## **PROCLAMATION**



## Office of the Mayor

WHEREAS, motor-vehicle crashes continue to be the number one cause of preventable death for U.S teens. NHTSA also estimates that the total number of deaths among teens ages 13 to 19 (including pedestrian and bicycle incidents) was 3,048 in 2023 averaging eight deaths per day; and

WHEREAS, teen drivers are particularly vulnerable on the road due to inexperience, with fatal crash rates per mile driven nearly three times higher than those of adult drivers; and

WHEREAS, the most common and preventable risk factors contributing to teen driving fatalities include alcohol and drug impairment, failure to wear seat belts, distracted driving, carrying additional passengers, excessive speed, and driving while drowsy; and

WHEREAS, these tragedies are not inevitable, and every crash prevented represents a life saved, a family spared grief, and a community strengthened; and

WHEREAS, by encouraging open conversations about the dangers of impaired, distracted, and unsafe driving, promoting consistent seat belt use, and reinforcing the principles of Graduated Driver Licensing laws, we can reduce preventable crashes and promote lifelong safe driving habits; and

WHEREAS, the City of Appleton recognizes the value of community education, proactive engagement, and shared responsibility in ensuring the safety of all who travel our roadways;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT I, JACOB A. WOODFORD, Mayor of the City of Appleton, Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim October 19-25, 2025, as

## NATIONAL TEEN DRIVER SAFETY WEEK

in the City of Appleton and encourage all residents to raise awareness, encourage safe driving conversations, and reinforce seat belt use and sober driving.

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Signed and sealed this <u>graded</u> day of October 2025.

JACOB A. WOODFORD MAYOR OF APPLETON