

City of El Paso de Robles
Proclamation

PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER CORNERSTONE CEREMONY

March 28, 2003

W*HEREAS*, Freemasonry is the oldest and largest fraternal organization in the world—a fraternal organization with a foundation in unchanging principles, a training ground for ethical living and moral behavior; and

W*HEREAS*, in ancient times, the start of construction of a new building was accompanied by special ceremonies; and as buildings were built of stone, it was essential that the first block of stone—the cornerstone—be properly cut and placed; and

W*HEREAS*, Masons today continue the ceremony as a way of dedicating a building, the ceremony being the same as that used by Masonic Member George Washington when he laid the cornerstone of the U.S. Capitol in 1793; and

W*HEREAS*, Paso Robles Lodge No. 286, chartered in 1887, laid cornerstones in 1903 for the California Polytechnic School, in 1908 for the Carnegie Library, in 1923 for what is now the Flamson Middle School, in 1980 for the Paso Robles High School, in 1995 for the Paso Robles Library and in the year 2000 for the Kermit King Elementary School; and

W*HEREAS*, the Paso Robles Public Safety Center houses the City's Firefighters and Law Enforcement Officers, who serve as the City guardians of life and property, it is only fitting and appropriate that the Cornerstone Ceremony for this public building be conducted by the ancient Order of Masonry, whose members are also measured by faithful, consistent and unselfish service in dedication to the welfare of all citizens.

W*HEREAS*, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of this City, and speaking on behalf of the entire City Council, I urge all citizens to join with me in this expression of our appreciation to the Masons of **PASO ROBLES MASONIC LODGE NO. 286** for their services at this most respected and significant occasion.

I*N WITNESS WHEREOF*, on this 28th day of March 2003, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Paso Robles to be affixed.

Frank R. Mecham, Mayor