



Purple Heart Day, August 7, 2012

Whereas, the Purple Heart was established by General George Washington at Newburgh, New York on August 7, 1782, during the Revolutionary War, as an incentive to the Continental Army and was the first award made available to the common soldier to recognize outstanding valor or merit; and

Whereas, The Purple Heart is awarded to members of the armed forces of the U.S. who are wounded by an instrument of war in the hands of the enemy and posthumously to the next of kin in the name of those who are killed in action or die of wounds received in action. It is specifically a combat decoration; and

Whereas, the organization now known as the "Military Order of the Purple Heart," was formed in 1932 for the protection and mutual interest of all who have received the decoration. Composed exclusively of Purple Heart recipients, it is the only veterans service organization comprised strictly of "combat" veterans; and

Whereas, the Lone Star Chapter 393, El Paso is the oldest Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter in the State of Texas and its 223 active members reinforce the objectives of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, which are patriotic, fraternal, historical and educational, by providing hospital/home visits, family assistance, memorial services and community welfare activities during the period, May 1, 2012 to April 30, 2013, to the veterans and community in El Paso, Fort Bliss and Dona Ana County, NM.