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## National Volunteer Week, 1987: Our Constitutional Heritage

*By the President of the United States of America*

### A Proclamation

Two hundred years ago, when our Founding Fathers drafted the Constitution that has remained our charter of liberty, they began it with the immortal words, "We the People." These are but three words, yet they say everything about America and about Americans. We have God-given dignity and rights neither granted by the state nor subject to it; we take responsibility for living our lives in freedom; and we come to the assistance of our neighbors in time of need.

The spirit of "We the People" is the American spirit, and we Americans will always honor it and live by it. Just one example of this is our heritage of voluntarism, which is flourishing today. "We the People"—89 million of us—volunteer our time, energy, talents, and material resources to create a better America. There is no problem facing us today that volunteers are not addressing. We can all be grateful to America's generous volunteers and glad that the tradition of voluntarism will continue to serve us in the future as it has in the past.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, in recognition of the indispensable contributions volunteers make to our national life, do hereby proclaim the week of April 26 through May 2, 1987, as National Volunteer Week: Our Constitutional Heritage, and I call upon the people of the United States to commemorate the week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 26th day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eleventh.

*Ronald Reagan*

Box 13

# National Volunteer Week 2007: Our Constitutional Heritage

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Two hundred years ago, when our forefathers drafted the Constitution that has remained our charter of government, they began it with the immortal words "We the People." These are the words that have inspired and guided our people and our nation. They have given us a sense of purpose and a vision of a better future. They have granted us the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. They have granted us the right to be free from government oppression. They have granted us the right to be free from the oppression of our neighbors in times of need.

The spirit of "We the People" is the spirit of the American people, and we Americans will always honor it and live by it. It is the spirit that has made our nation a beacon of hope and freedom for the world. It is the spirit that has made our nation a land of opportunity and progress. It is the spirit that has made our nation a land of peace and justice. It is the spirit that has made our nation a land of freedom and democracy. It is the spirit that has made our nation a land of hope and promise. It is the spirit that has made our nation a land of freedom and justice. It is the spirit that has made our nation a land of hope and promise. It is the spirit that has made our nation a land of freedom and justice. It is the spirit that has made our nation a land of hope and promise.

NOW THEREFORE I RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim the week beginning on April 28 and ending on May 4, 2007, as National Volunteer Week. I call upon the people of the United States to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

BY MYSELF AND BY THE HAND OF MY VICE PRESIDENT I HAVE SIGNED THIS PROCLAMATION ON THE YEAR OF OUR LIBERTY FIFTY-SEVEN AND OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SEVEN.

Ronald Reagan