

City of Cordova, Alaska

PROCLAMATION OF APPRECIATION TO

Richard Groff

I, Mayor Clay R. Koplin, do hereby issue this Proclamation of Appreciation to Dick Groff, for his 45 years of invaluable contributions to the citizens and City of Cordova as member of the Cordova Volunteer Fire Department, and as a dedicated and involved volunteer in varied other posts within Cordova

WHEREAS, Dick moved to Cordova for employment with the United States Forest Service in 1974 and quickly involved himself in community activities; and

WHEREAS, he became one of the first in the state to receive the designation of certified firefighter in 1979 and he was appointed assistant chief of the CVFD in 1982; and

WHEREAS, Dick helped establish the statewide firefighter I curriculum which is still used today and over his tenure has trained thousands of firefighters across the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, he has held several positions in the CVFD, the state firefighters' association and is a recipient of the prestigious **Del Moffitt** award for outstanding performance as a firefighter; and

WHEREAS, Dick was instrumental in developing the Explorer post within the CVFD which continues to thrive and attract the youth of today to serve our community; and

WHEREAS, Dick now serves the CVFD as safety officer, and since September 11, 2001 has taught countless disaster management classes and in 2012 was instrumental in the response to snowpocalypse in Cordova; and


WHEREAS, he received search and rescue technician level III certification in 2016, has been providing CERT training to the community for years and received a special commendation for a life-saving effort in a drug overdose case in 2004; and

WHEREAS, Dick has been a driving force during several Alaska Shield exercises and at age 83 is believed to be the oldest active firefighter in the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Dick has served and continues service to the community in various other ways: as a City Council member, Vice-Mayor, Health Services Board member, he volunteers on the Cordova Trap and Gun Club, Amateur HAM Radio Club, Cordova Community Baptist Church Board of Deacons and he assists with Hunter Safety Training.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Mayor, the City Council, and the citizens of Cordova hereby express their sincerest appreciation to **Richard Groff** for his long-time devotion as a volunteer serving the Cordova Volunteer Fire Department and for his overall dedication and involvement as a citizen of Cordova. **Dick's** life is truly a perfect example of thriving through service to one's community.

Signed this 16th day of January 2019



Clay R. Koplin, Mayor

