

RESOLUTION NO. 15 - 31

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING FLAG PROTOCOL
FOR WORCESTER COUNTY GOVERNMENT FACILITIES**

WHEREAS, there are currently several local county government facilities located throughout Worcester County, Maryland that display the Flag of the United States of America. Some of these facilities also display the Maryland State Flag, the Worcester County Flag, or both; and

WHEREAS, the County Commissioners of Worcester County, Maryland have previously received requests to display other flags at local county government facilities and have been requested to lower the Worcester County Flag upon the death of County dignitaries; and

WHEREAS, the County Commissioners have determined the need to establish formal protocol for the display of the American Flag, Maryland State Flag, Worcester County Flag, and other flags at county government facilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Commissioners of Worcester County, Maryland that the following Flag Protocol is hereby established and shall be observed at all Worcester County, Maryland government facilities:

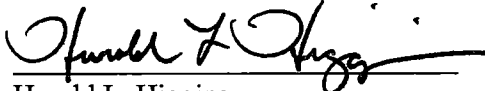
1. The Flag of the United States of America shall be displayed in accordance with 4 U.S. Code, §5-10, as from time to time amended.
2. The Maryland State Flag shall be displayed in accordance with the protocols established by the Secretary of State.
3. The Worcester County Flag shall be displayed whenever the Maryland State Flag is displayed and at other times at the direction of the President of the County Commissioners or his designee. Upon the death of a present or former Worcester County Elected Official, the Commission President or his designee may authorize the flag to be lowered to half-mast for the period prescribed by the Commission President or his designee. Whenever the Flag of the United States of America or the Maryland State Flag are flown at half-mast, the Worcester County Flag shall be flown at half-mast.
4. Other flags
 - A. Only the Prisoners of War/Missing in Action Flag (POW/MIA Flag) shall be flown in accordance with the protocol attached hereto.

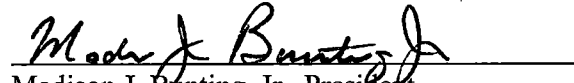
AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect upon its passage.

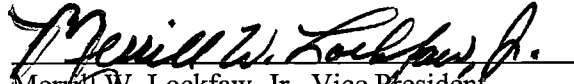
PASSED AND ADOPTED this 20th day of October, 2015.

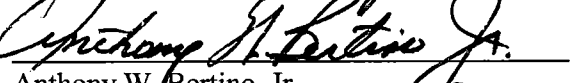
ATTEST:


WORCESTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

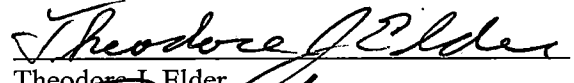

Harold L. Higgins
Chief Administrative Officer

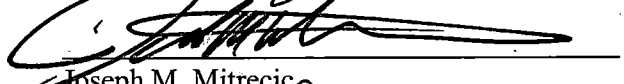

Madison J. Bunting, Jr., President

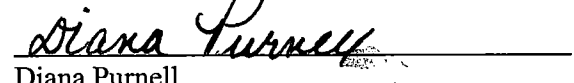

Merrill W. Lockfaw, Jr., Vice President


Anthony W. Bertino, Jr.


James C. Church


Theodore J. Elder


Joseph M. Mitreic


Diana Purnell

"The symbol of our Nation's concern and commitment to resolving as fully as possible the fates of Americans still prisoner, missing and unaccounted for in Southeast Asia."

Displaying the POW/MIA Flag

Congress designated the third Friday of September as National POW/MIA Recognition Day and ordered prominent display of the POW/MIA flag on this day and several other national observances, including Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day and Veterans Day. The 1998 Defense Authorization Act (P.L. 105-85) mandates that on these national observances, the POW/MIA flag is to be flown over the White House, the U.S. Capitol, the Korean and Vietnam Veterans War Memorials, the offices of the Secretaries of State, Defense and Veterans Affairs, offices of the Director of the Selective Service System, every major military installation (as directed by the Secretary of Defense), every post office and all Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical centers and national cemeteries. The act also directs VA medical centers to fly the POW/MIA flag on any day on which the flag of the United States is displayed.

When displayed from a single flag pole, the POW/MIA flag should fly directly below, and be no larger than, the United States flag. If on separate poles, the U.S. flag should always be placed to the right of other flags. On the six national observances for which Congress has ordered display of the POW/ MIA flag, it is generally flown immediately below or adjacent to the United States flag as second in order of precedence.