



CITY OF BELLINGHAM  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
SETH FLEETWOOD

## MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, Law Day is an occasion of public acknowledgement of our Nation's and State's heritage of justice, liberty, and equality under the law; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1958 President Eisenhower proclaimed Law Day to honor the role of law in the creation of the United States of America, and in 1961 Congress issued a joint resolution declaring May 1, Law Day; and

**WHEREAS**, the theme for 2023 Law Day is Cornerstones of Democracy: Civics, Civility and Collaboration; and

**WHEREAS**, at times throughout our nation's history, there have been divisions in society, aggravated by incivility in public discourse and insufficient understanding about the Constitution and the way American government works. Even the Founding generation overcame deep divisions to craft our great charter of government; and

**WHEREAS**, all Americans must remember, as President Lincoln proclaimed, "We are not enemies, but friends... Though passion may have strained, it must not break our bonds of affection;" and

**WHEREAS**, members of the legal profession should lead the way in promoting collaboration to overcome our differences and resolve our disputes so that we may strengthen the bonds of affection between citizens, and ensure all Americans understand how our constitutional order protects the blessings of liberty; and

**WHEREAS**, the theme for Law Day 2023 is Cornerstones of Democracy: Civics, Civility and Collaboration, we encourage all Americans to work together to overcome our differences, resolve our disputes, and preserve our democracy and republic; and

**WHEREAS**, Law Day, May 1, 2023, will be commemorated in the City of Bellingham with 8<sup>th</sup> grade middle school students participating in a program at Bellingham Municipal Court.

**NOW THEREFORE, DO I**, Seth Fleetwood, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, proclaim May 1, 2023, to be

### LAW DAY

in the City of Bellingham, Washington and encourage everyone to observe this day by renewing their commitment to civic engagement, civility, and collaboration.



Signed this 13<sup>th</sup> day of April 2023

Seth Fleetwood, Mayor  
City of Bellingham