



City of New Bedford

Office of City Council

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Brian K. Gomes

Councillor at Large

City Council President

1998, 2011 & 2015

May 05, 2022

The Honorable Thomas Hodgson
High Sheriff of Bristol County
400 Faunce Corner Road
Dartmouth, MA 02747

Dear Sheriff Hodgson:

This letter is being written pursuant to your assistance in the past few years with the placing of Flags at gravesites to honor deceased Veterans for Memorial Day.

I am requesting your assistance on behalf of the Portuguese-American War Veterans, the organization responsible for flagging approximately 1,600 Veterans graves at St. John's Cemetery, at the New Bedford/Dartmouth line. As you are aware, the majority of Veterans are committed to maintaining the annual tradition of flagging graves of fallen comrades, the practice has become a task and almost a "danger" to individuals of that age, in light of the large number of graves they are committed to marking.

It is with that concern, and with the knowledge of your commitment to our Veterans and the community-at-large, that I am requesting your assistance and the assistance of your pre-release work crews in marking Veterans' graves once again this year.

The Veterans would like to arrange to schedule the work crews for the middle of the week of May 23-27 in order to allow sufficient time to complete the task, and yet be late enough in the week to discourage youths and vandals from removing the Flags prior to Memorial Day.

As always, your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Brian K. Gomes, Councillor at Large

BKG: rrr

cc: Councillor Naomi R.A. Carney, Work Crew Administrator, Bristol County Sheriff's Dept.
400 Faunce Corner Road, No. Dartmouth, MA 02747
File