



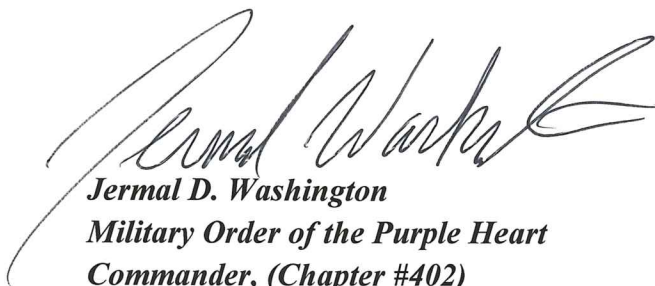
Proclamation

To Proclaim Finlay Park as a Purple Heart Park

- WHEREAS,** the Military Order of the Purple Heart is dedicated to honoring and supporting the brave men and women of our armed forces who have been awarded the Purple Heart Medal for their acts of valor and sacrifice in defense of our liberties; and
- WHEREAS,** the Purple Heart Medal is a symbol of honor, bravery, and sacrifice, first established by General George Washington in 1782, recognizing those who have been wounded or lost their lives in service to their country; and
- WHEREAS,** the Purple Heart Trail program was initiated in 1992 at Mt. Vernon, Virginia, with the goal of establishing a national network of locations dedicated to honoring Purple Heart recipients and to ensure their sacrifices are remembered; and
- WHEREAS,** Finlay Park has been designated as a Purple Heart Park in a historic recognition as the first park to receive this designation in the state of South Carolina; and
- WHEREAS,** this designation signifies the City of Columbia's unwavering commitment to acknowledging the sacrifices of our veterans and ensuring that their legacy is honored within our community; and
- WHEREAS,** Finlay Park will serve as a sacred site for reflection and remembrance, fostering education and community engagement around the sacrifices made by those who have served in the armed forces; and

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, do hereby proclaim Finlay Park as a Purple Heart Park, inviting citizens, military dependents, veterans, and active service members to come together to celebrate and honor the legacy of sacrifice, bravery, and service represented by this designation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we hereby set our hands and seals this April 21, 2026.


Jermal D. Washington
Military Order of the Purple Heart
Commander, (Chapter #402)
Columbia, SC

