

## **RESOLUTION -2026**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MT. JULIET, TENNESSEE, AUTHORIZING THE DISPLAY OF THE NATIONAL MOTTO “IN GOD WE TRUST” ON CITY-OWNED VEHICLES**

**WHEREAS**, the United States adopted “In God We Trust” as the official national motto in 1956; and

**WHEREAS**, the national motto appears on United States currency and has long been recognized as a historical and patriotic expression; and

**WHEREAS**, courts have recognized the national motto as a ceremonial and patriotic reference that does not establish religion; and

**WHEREAS**, the year 2026 marks the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States of America, a historic milestone commemorating the signing of the United States Declaration of Independence; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Mt. Juliet desires to recognize and celebrate this significant anniversary by honoring the history, heritage, and enduring values of our Nation; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Mt. Juliet further desires to acknowledge the historical and patriotic significance of the national motto;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of the City of Mt. Juliet, Tennessee:

**Section 1.** The phrase “In God We Trust,” the official motto of the United States, is hereby authorized for display on City-owned vehicles, including but not limited to public safety vehicles.

**Section 2.** The display of the national motto is intended as a passive, ceremonial, and patriotic expression, and is not intended to endorse, promote, or coerce any religious belief.

**Section 3.** The City may utilize donated funds or budgeted funds for the procurement and installation of such decals.

**Section 4.** The City Manager (or designee) is authorized to implement this resolution.

### **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**

In case of conflict between this resolution or any part hereof, and the whole part of any existing resolution of the City, the conflicting resolution is repealed to the extent of the conflict but no further.

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If any section, clause, or provision or portion of this resolution is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such holding shall not affect any other section, clause, or provision or portion of this resolution.

This resolution shall take effect on the earliest date allowed by law.

PASSED:

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James Maness, Mayor

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Kenny Martin, City Manager

ATTEST:

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Jennifer Hamblen, CMC, City Recorder

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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Samantha A. Burnett, City Attorney