



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER #131**

**Relating to a Proclamation that the Flag of the United States and the Flag of the State of Wisconsin be Flown at Half-Staff as a Mark of Respect for brothers Fireman First Class Malcom J. Barber, Fireman First Class Leroy K. Barber, and Fireman Second Class Randolph H. Barber of the United States Navy Who Lost Their Lives on the Battleship USS Oklahoma during the Attack on Pearl Harbor**

**WHEREAS**, Navy Fireman First Class Malcom J. Barber, Fireman First Class Leroy K. Barber, and Fireman Second Class Randolph H. Barber, three brothers assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma, were killed December 7, 1941, during the attack on Pearl Harbor in Hawaii;

**WHEREAS**, the USS Oklahoma was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft and sustained torpedo hits that caused the ship to quickly capsize, resulting in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including the Barber brothers;

**WHEREAS**, Navy personnel recovered remains of the deceased crew between 1941 and 1944 and interred unidentified remains, which included those of the Barber Brothers, at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu shortly after World War II;

**WHEREAS**, Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency exhumed USS Oklahoma Unknowns in 2015 for scientific analysis and possible identification and the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency laboratory identified Navy Fireman first Class Malcom J. Barber, Fireman first Class Leroy K. Barber, and Fireman second Class Randolph H. Barber, and the Barber brothers were accounted for on June 11, 2021;

**WHEREAS**, on Saturday, September 11, 2021, Navy Fireman First Class Malcom J. Barber, Fireman First Class Leroy K. Barber, and Fireman Second Class Randolph H. Barber will be buried with full military honors at Most Precious Blood Cemetery in New London; and

**WHEREAS**, the people of the United States and the State of Wisconsin are forever grateful for the service, selflessness, and sacrifice of Navy Fireman First Class Malcom J. Barber, Fireman First Class Leroy K. Barber, and Fireman Second Class Randolph H. Barber of the United States Navy.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, TONY EVERS**, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the Laws of the State, hereby order that the flag of the United States and the flag of the State of Wisconsin be flown at half-staff at all buildings, grounds, and military installations of the State of Wisconsin equipped with such flags beginning at sunrise on **Saturday, September 11, 2021**, and ending at sunset on that date.

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this eighth day of September in the year of two thousand twenty-one.

TONY EVERS  
Governor

By the Governor:

  
DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE  
Secretary of State