WHEREAS, probation and parole officers are an essential part of the criminal justice system, upholding the law with dignity while recognizing the right of the public to be safe-guarded from criminal activity; and

WHEREAS, probation and parole officers are responsible for supervising adult and juvenile offenders in the community, providing services and referrals for offenders, and offering support and protection for victims; and

WHEREAS, probation and parole officers work in partnership with community agencies and groups to promote prevention and intervention and to advocate for community and restorative justice.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim July 13 – 19, 2003, as PROBATION, PAROLE, AND COMMUNITY SUPERVISION OFFICERS’ WEEK throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize probation and parole officers for their many contributions to our criminal justice system.