

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, Gunnery Sergeant John Basilone was the only enlisted Marine in World War II to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor, the Navy Cross, and the Purple Heart; and

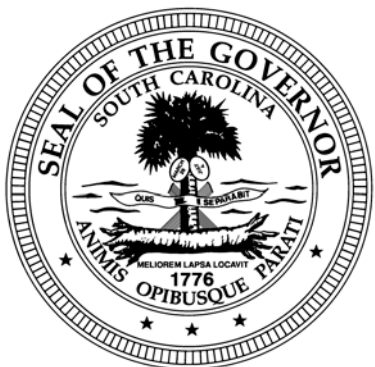
WHEREAS, Basilone was awarded the Medal of Honor in 1942 for his heroism on the island of Guadalcanal and was posthumously awarded the Navy Cross and the Purple Heart for actions at Iwo Jima; and

WHEREAS, Gunnery Sergeant John Basilone Day commemorates the life and legacy of John Basilone, while paying tribute to all those Marines who have given so much throughout our history to protect the freedoms we enjoy.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim February 19, 2004, as

GUNNERY SERGEANT JOHN BASILONE DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the sacrifices that Marines make each and every day to keep our nation safe.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Sanford".

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA