

RESOLUTION NO. 26-08-021

Sponsored by: Commissioners Mike Akard, Jared Anderson, Robbie Bennett, Dyran Bledsoe, Brad Bowers, Nick Bright, Quentin Caldwell, Rick Carver, Mike Caylor, Misty Davis, Ron French, John Giles, Jessica Hannah, Jeff Jopling, Scott King, Staci Martin, Earl McMahan, Steve Mikels, Dawn Reagan, Linda Webb, and David Wells

**A PROCLAMATION HONORING MAYOR ED MITCHELL FOR HIS DEDICATED SERVICE TO
THE CITIZENS OF BLOUNT COUNTY, TENNESSEE**

BE IT PROCLAIMED, by the Board of Commissioners of Blount County, Tennessee, in regular session assembled this ____ day of _____, 2026:

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the citizens and leadership of Blount County, Tennessee, formally recognize individuals who have performed with uncommon devotion, integrity, and enthusiasm throughout their public service careers; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Ed Mitchell is a sixth-generation Blount Countian who continues to reside on his historic family farm, first settled in 1800. He has dedicated 47 years to public service, beginning his legacy of community care by serving his first four years in law enforcement, then 27 years in fire safety, with his last 15 years as the Maryville Fire Chief before retiring; and

WHEREAS, having been first elected in August 2010, Mayor Mitchell has served with supreme distinction for four consecutive terms as the Chief Fiscal Officer and executive leader of Blount County until the conclusion of his term in August 2026; and

WHEREAS, under his leadership, the County accomplished a major IT modernization program, implemented the first ever Employee and Classification Program for all County employees, created the BCSO EMR program, initiated a Chaplain program for employees in all departments, including our Schools, prioritized capital investments to our County buildings, the Eagleton Ballpark renovation and drastically reduced its public debt to a mere fraction of what it was when he took office, ensuring decades of fiscal stability and strong credit for the region; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Mitchell’s spirit of collaboration was instrumental in the partnerships between County Government, local businesses, industries, non-profits, and with our local municipalities, including the local and State partnership necessary to ensure the Great Smoky Mountains National Park remained open during any federal government shutdowns that occurred during his tenure, accomplishing the only National Park to stay completely open during the fall of 2025.

WHEREAS, his administration successfully catalyzed regional economic growth, securing marquee recruitments such as Smith & Wesson and the \$200 million flagship Amazon fulfillment hub, a DENSO expansion, also supporting Blount County’s small businesses while continuously keeping local taxes low; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Mitchell championed crucial community assets, orchestrating the life-saving partnership between Blount Memorial Hospital and Prisma Health to secure premier healthcare for all citizens; and

WHEREAS, he has consistently demonstrated a deep reverence for the nation's armed forces, making it a priority to ensure local veterans are individually celebrated and supported; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Mitchell has officially announced his retirement, choosing not to seek a fifth term, leaving behind an indelible legacy of leadership, stewardship, and a better prepared community for the future;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAMED that the Blount County Board of Commissioners does hereby honor Mayor Ed Mitchell and urge all citizens to join in extending our deepest appreciation to Mayor Mitchell for making Blount County a place where families can live the American dream every day.

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that this proclamation shall be made a part of the official records of the Board of Commissioners of Blount County, Tennessee.

CERTIFICATION OF ACTION	ATTEST
Commission Chairman	County Clerk
County Mayor ☐ Approved ☐ Vetoed	Date