

# Proclamation

*By Mayor and Council - Township of North Brunswick*

**WHEREAS**, the Township of North Brunswick's **Veteran Street Sign Program** allows Township residents who were Wartime Veterans to be recognized by adding their name on a secondary street sign to an existing Municipal Road; and

**WHEREAS**, by adding names of local Wartime Veterans to public street signs, we hope to promote public awareness of these individuals and show our appreciation for their outstanding contributions and service to our country as a member of the United States Armed Forces; and

**WHEREAS**, eligible military candidates for this honor include honorably discharged Veterans having served in Military Departments as defined under Department of Defense which include Departments of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and the Coast Guard; and

**WHEREAS**, Wartime Veterans are individuals who served in the active military forces, during a period of armed conflict or who received the armed forces expeditionary or other campaign service medals during an emergency condition, including those who died in the line of duty in the active military forces; and

**WHEREAS**, **Melissa A. Francis** has been selected to be recognized in the Veteran Street Sign Program; and

**WHEREAS**, **Melissa** was born on November 12, 1986 in Trenton, New Jersey ; and

**WHEREAS**, **Melissa** served in Operation Enduring Freedom with the United States Army from January 2, 2010 until September 21, 2013. She was deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. As a SPC (Specialist in the Army), she held a Chief Warrant Officer 3 position as the Standardization Instructor for all Non-Rated Crewmembers deployed to United States Central Command (Centcom). She was responsible for improving aircrew performance with civilian contractors as well as ground forces. This resulted in actionable intelligence, getting accurate information to make decisions. A number of operations concluded with the capture of one hundred and thirteen insurgents. No American lives were lost due to alerting ground forces of the location of the insurgents who were trying to penetrate the compound; and

**WHEREAS**, **Melissa** has flown over 2100 Combat hours aboard a manned aircraft during the Global War on Terror. She has assisted in setting up a mission in South America against drug trafficking and helping the border patrol in monitoring the Mexico/United States border. **Melissa** has trained over ninety two service members, from a Private to CW5. She has also had the honor of briefing military and foreign military partners in addition to high ranking officials in the government; and

**WHEREAS**, **Melissa** received numerous awards for her service which include the Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, Army Achievement Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, Army Service Ribbon, NATO Medal and Basic Aviation Badge ; and

**WHEREAS**, **Melissa** currently lives in Virginia and works in the Washington D.C. area. She has one son, Finley.

**NOW, THEREFORE, WE**, the Mayor and Council of the Township of North Brunswick, **DO HEREBY PROCLAIM**, distinguished recognition to **Melissa A. Francis** for her service to our country ensuring freedom for all.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Francis M. Womack III  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carlo Socio  
Council President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Davis  
Councilman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lou Ann Benson  
Director of DPRCS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa Russo, Township Clerk  
September 25, 2017