RESOLUTION NO. 2023-016

A RESOLUTION recognizing Corporal Benjamin Cooper of the Joplin Police Department for his years of service by naming the bridge on Loop 44/Range Line Road crossing over the Kansas City Southern Railroad in the City of Joplin in Jasper County as the **"CPL Ben Cooper Memorial Bridge."**

WHEREAS, Cpl. Benjamin Cooper served his country as part of the U.S Army for eight years before beginning his 19-year law enforcement career with the City of Joplin starting in 2003; and

WHEREAS, Cpl. Benjamin Cooper served as a highly skilled supervisor, trainer and mentor for incoming officers, as well as seasoned staff; and

WHEREAS, on March 8, 2022, Cpl. Benjamin Cooper valiantly fell in the line of duty while serving the community he was instrumental in protecting; and

WHEREAS, on March 8, 2022, Cpl. Benjamin Cooper succumbed to his injuries and was survived by his wife Roxy, two daughters, Tiffany, and Ashley; and

WHEREAS, on July 6, 2023, Senate Bill 127, Section 227.826 was signed into law designating the bridge on Loop 44/Range Line Road crossing over the Kansas City Southern Railroad in the City of Joplin as the **"CPL Ben Cooper Memorial Bridge."** This memorial designation becomes effective August 28, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Cpl. Benjamin Cooper possessed great character and trust amongst fellow officers and citizens of this community. He will be forever remembered for his bravery and sacrifice on behalf of the City of Joplin and the law enforcement profession.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of Joplin, at its August 7, 2023, meeting, hereby honors Corporal Benjamin Cooper of the Joplin Police Department for his years of dedication and service by naming the bridge on Loop 44/Range Line Road crossing over the Kansas City Southern Railroad in the City of Joplin as the **"CPL Ben Cooper Memorial Bridge."**

APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOPLIN, MISSOURI, this 7th day of August 2023, by a vote of

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Douglas W. Lawson, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Holly Nagy, City Clerk