Proclamation 3633

LAW DAY, U.S.A., 1965

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

The Congress of the United States has set aside the first day of May of each year as Law Day, U.S.A., an occasion for the American people to rededicate themselves to our Nation's ideals of equality and justice under law and to our responsibilities as free men.

There is a timely need for such rededication. The Nation's efforts to advance freedom and individual opportunity, to curb lawlessness, and to achieve equal justice for all citizens are urgent concerns of every American.

Law Day, U.S.A., reminds us of the fundamental truth that our very lives, our liberty, and our rights to pursue our individual destinies are dependent upon our system of law and independent courts. Obedience to the laws which protect these rights is the heart of our system. Disrespect for law, intolerance, and public apathy concerning law enforcement are enemies of justice and freedom.

The observance of Law Day, U.S.A., on May 1, 1965, with the theme, "Uphold the Law—A Citizen's First Duty," will serve to focus attention on the fact that every citizen can help strengthen our national commitment to the rule of law. Every American can contribute to an orderly, lawful society by personal compliance with the laws, by recognizing the rights of others, by teaching respect for law in the home, by supporting and aiding the agencies of law enforcement, and by serving on a jury or giving testimony in court when called.

Law Day, U.S.A., is an appropriate occasion for each of us to commit himself to the fulfillment of these responsibilities of citizenship.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LYNDON B. JOHNSON, President of the United States of America, do hereby request that the people of our land observe Saturday, May 1, 1965, with suitable programs and ceremonies, as Law Day, U.S.A. I urge that schools, churches, civic and service organizations, public bodies, courts, the legal profession, and the media of information participate in this educational and patriotic undertaking. I call upon public officials to display the Nation's flag on public buildings on that day as requested by the Congress.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.
as Human Rights Day and December 15, 1965, as Bill of Rights Day, and call upon the people of the United States to observe the week of December 10-17 as Human Rights Week.

Let us never forget the words cast on the big bell at Independence Hall, “Proclaim Liberty throughout the land and unto all the inhabitants thereof.”

The Congress of the United States, our Executive Departments, the Courts, and men and women of good will throughout the land are daily demonstrating their determination that no one shall be denied enjoyment of his rights or equal opportunity to rise as far as his abilities will take him.

During this Human Rights Week, let us pause to reaffirm the ideals and principles which have been at the foundation of our country’s growth and greatness—ideals which have stirred the minds and hearts of men from time immemorial, and which take on new power and promise for all peoples in this splendid age of scientific and cultural achievement.

Let each of us, in daily life, do what he can to make this a truly just and compassionate nation, remembering that as we work for freedom here—freedom from discrimination, freedom from ignorance, from poverty, from all that makes for fear and prejudice—we work not only for ourselves but for all mankind.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this second day of December in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninetieth.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

By the President:

DEAN RUSK,
Secretary of State.

Proclamation 3692
LAW DAY, U.S.A., 1966
By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation

“Liberty lies in the hearts of men and women; when it dies there, no constitution, no law, no court can save it; no constitution, no law, no court can even do much to help it. * * * the spirit of liberty is the spirit of Him who, near two thousand years ago, taught mankind that lesson it has never learned, but has never quite forgotten; that there may be a kingdom where the least shall be heard and considered side by side with the greatest.”

These words of a great American jurist, the late Judge Learned Hand, are especially appropriate this year as the United States of