



# **PATRIOT DAY**

## **Objectives:**

- Learn about the events that occurred on 9/11/2001.
- Understand why it is important to remember this event.

## **Preparation:**

- Read the attached PDF of President George W. Bush addressing the nation.

## **Activities**

- As a group, read the PDF illustrating the events that happened on 9/11.
- As a group, read the PDF of President George W. Bush's speech.
- As a group, watch the Lessons From The Front video.
- Discuss why it's important to remember the events that happened.
- Hold a moment of remembrance for the lives that were lost.

## **Resources:**

- Patriot Day History PDF
- President Bush Speech PDF
- Names of the 9/11 victims PDF



# **PATRIOT DAY HISTORY**

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Patriot Day commemorates the lives of those who died in the 2001 terrorist attacks on the Twin Towers (The World Trade Center) in New York, the Pentagon in Virginia, and those who perished when the hijacked United Airlines flight 93 crashed in Pennsylvania. The day of remembrance also recognizes those first responders who died attempting to rescue people trapped in the rubble left by the attacks.

U.S. Congress on Dec. 18, 2001; by a joint resolution that September 11 was designated as Patriot Day. The resolution calls for the president of the United States to issue a yearly proclamation requesting that all U.S. flags be flown at half-staff. Further, Americans are asked to honor the dead with a moment of silence beginning at 8:46 AM, Eastern Standard Time, the time that the first airplane struck the Twin Towers (World Trade Center), and to respect the ceremonies of remembrance when they are conducted.

## **PATRIOT DAY HISTORY**

On September 13, 2001, in the immediate aftermath of the terrorist attacks, President George W. Bush proclaimed Friday, September 11, 2001, as a National Day of Prayer and Remembrance for the Victims of the Terrorist Attacks. On August 31, 2002, he also proclaimed September 6 through September 8 as National Days of Prayer and Remembrance. In 2002, he proclaimed September 11 as Patriot Day.. President Barack Obama expanded this in 2016 to be Patriot Day and National Day of Service and Remembrance. In 2017 and 2018, President Donald Trump also proclaimed September 11 as Patriot Day.

“During the National Days of Prayer and Remembrance, we pause to honor the memory of the nearly 3,000 innocent people who were murdered by radical Islamist terrorists in the brutal attacks of September 11, 2001. We come together to pray for those whose lives were forever changed by the loss of a loved one. We strengthen our resolve to stand together as one nation.” - President Donald Trump.

## **MEMORIAL**

Every year from that day, the United States comes together to remember the fallen. We remember the first responders and those who made difficult decisions.

## **HOW TO OBSERVE:**

Patriot Day, September 11th honors the memory of the nearly 3,000 innocent victims who died in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. Each year Americans dedicate this day to remembering those who died and to the first responders who risked their own lives to save others.

There are several ways to observe Patriot Day. The easiest is to hold a moment of silence at 8:46 AM EDT to honor those who have passed. Many communities around the country also hold parades while many people volunteer to honor the loss of the nearly 3,000 people. You can also show your appreciation by standing together and helping those in need and improve lives in your own community.

*Other lessons and resources are located at [carrytheload.org/educate](http://carrytheload.org/educate).*



# **PATRIOT DAY**

Good evening.

Today, our fellow citizens, our way of life, our very freedom came under attack in a series of deliberate and deadly terrorist acts. The victims were in airplanes or in their offices: secretaries, businessmen and women, military and federal workers, moms and dads, friends and neighbors. Thousands of lives were suddenly ended by evil, despicable acts of terror. The pictures of airplanes flying into buildings fires burning, huge -- huge structures collapsing have filled us with disbelief, terrible sadness, and quiet, unyielding anger. These acts of mass murder were intended to frighten our nation into chaos and retreat. But they have failed. Our country is strong.

A great people has been moved to defend a great nation. Terrorist attacks can shake the foundations of our biggest buildings, but they cannot touch the foundation of America. These acts shatter steel, but they cannot dent the steel of American resolve. America was targeted for attack because we're the brightest beacon for freedom and opportunity in the world. And no one will keep that light from shining. Today, our nation saw evil -- the very worst of human nature -- and we responded with the best of America. With the daring of our rescue workers, with the caring for strangers and neighbors who came to give blood and help in any way they could.

Immediately following the first attack, I implemented our government's emergency response plans. Our military is powerful, and it's prepared. Our emergency teams are working in New York City and Washington D.C. to help with local rescue efforts. Our first priority is to get help to those who have been injured, and to take every precaution to protect our citizens at home and around the world from further attacks. The functions of our government continue without interruption. Federal agencies in Washington which had to be evacuated today are reopening for essential personnel tonight and will be open for business tomorrow. Our financial institutions remain strong, and the American economy will be open for business as well.

The search is underway for those who were behind these evil acts. I have directed the full resources of our intelligence and law enforcement communities to find those responsible and to bring them to justice. We will make no distinction between the terrorists who committed these acts and those who harbor them.

I appreciate so very much the members of Congress who have joined me in strongly condemning these attacks. And on behalf of the American people, I thank the many world leaders who have called to offer their condolences and assistance. America and our friends and allies join with all those who want peace and security in the world, and we stand together to win the war against terrorism.

Tonight, I ask for your prayers for all those who grieve, for the children whose worlds have been shattered, for all whose sense of safety and security has been threatened. And I pray they will be comforted by a Power greater than any of us, spoken through the ages in Psalm 23:

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil for you are with me. This is a day when all Americans from every walk of life unite in our resolve for justice and peace. America has stood down enemies before, and we will do so this time. None of us will ever forget this day, yet we go forward to defend freedom and all that is good and just in our world.

Thank you. Good night. And God bless America.