



## Board of County Commissioners

*William D. Riphahn*, 1<sup>st</sup> District  
*Kevin J. Cook*, 2nd District  
*Aaron D. Mays*, 3<sup>rd</sup> District  
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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### MEDIA RELEASE

#### **Operation Green Light**

**Topeka, Kan.** – In advance of the upcoming Veterans Day holiday, Shawnee County Courthouse will be illuminated green from **November 7<sup>th</sup> through the 13<sup>th</sup>** as part of *Operation Green Light*, a new national collaborative initiative of the National Association of Counties (NACo) to support military veterans, as well as raise awareness about the unique challenges faced by many veterans and the resources that are available at the county, state, and federal level to assist veterans and their families.

The new national collaborative is spearheaded by the National Association of Counties and the National Association of County Veteran Service Officers, building upon the successful efforts of the New York State Association of Counties and the NYS County Veteran Service Officers' Association in 2021.

“Since the tragedy of September 11, 2001, our nation’s voluntary military force members, and their families, have made immense sacrifices for our safety and security over a two-decade period,” said Dusty Nichols, Emergency Management Director, and Veteran. “Similar to the sacrifices of previous generations of our armed forces, this service to the country also often results in significant stress to many of the veterans who served in times of war and conflict. We want to make sure our veterans and their families know that their service matters, that we are grateful for their sacrifices, and that it is now our turn to make sure they are served by their county government and our community.”



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In addition to lighting the Courthouse, residents and businesses are encouraged to participate by simply changing one light bulb in their house to a green bulb. This can be an exterior light that neighbors and passersby see or an interior light that sparks a conversation with friends.

“Operation Green Light is a simple way to express our collective appreciation for the public service of our veterans,” Angela Lewis, Human Resources Director, and Veteran. “We encourage everyone to join us in displaying a green light for our veterans and to also reflect on how we, at the county level, assist our military service personal back into civilian life upon completion of their service to our country.”

Visit the Operation Greenlight [webpage](#) for more information and links to resources available to veterans.

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