



City of Killeen

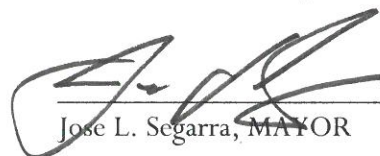
- WHEREAS** The City of Killeen was born May 15, 1882, when the Santa Fe Railroad extended its line westward; and
- WHEREAS** It was named for Frank P. Killeen, an official of the railroad in Galveston, and some believe that Killeen may have been among the railroad dignitaries on the train that arrived to mark the beginning of the town, but it has never been confirmed; and
- WHEREAS** The town of about 300 people became the shipping point of the area for agricultural products, cotton in particular, and in the next 60 years, the city prospered and grew to over 1,200 people; and
- WHEREAS** In 1942, this small railroad town became home to military post Camp Hood, named for Confederate General John Bell Hood. The military camp's impact was tremendous, more than quintupling Killeen's population in its first few years; and
- WHEREAS** During World War II, the Army was looking for a place to train soldiers in tank destroyer tactics, and Killeen fit the bill. The initial installation covered 160,000 acres, most of Killeen's best farming land, forcing many families from their homesteads. In 1950, the camp was declared a permanent post changing its name to Fort Hood; and
- WHEREAS** The town and the fort have grown together in a dynamic partnership that provides an excellent quality of life for soldiers and civilians with affordable homes, good schools, and great amenities; and
- WHEREAS** This small agriculture turned railroad turned military town has a rich history of dedicated citizens who have made it a place more than 140,000 people proudly call home.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Jose L. Segarra, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Killeen do hereby proclaim the May 15, 2017 as:

The City of Killeen's 135th Birthday



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Killeen to be affixed this 15th day of May, 2017.


Jose L. Segarra, MAYOR