



## PROCLAMATION

**Whereas**, the City of Sterling, Illinois celebrates our local small businesses and the contributions they make to our local economy and community; and

**Whereas**, according to the United States Small Business Administration, there are currently 30.2 million small businesses in the United States, they represent 99.7 percent of all businesses with employees in the United States, are responsible for 65.9 percent of net new jobs created from 2000 to 2017 and small businesses employ 47.5 percent of the employees in the private sector in the United States; and

**Whereas**, 90% of consumers in the United States say Small Business Saturday has had a positive impact on their community and 89% of consumers who are aware of Small Business Saturday said the day encourages them to Shop Small all year long; and

**Whereas**, the City of Sterling, Illinois supports our local businesses that create jobs, boost our local economy and create the unique character of our community; and

**Whereas**, advocacy groups, as well as public and private organizations, across the country have endorsed the Saturday after Thanksgiving as Small Business Saturday.

**Now, Therefore**, I, Charles "Skip" Lee, Mayor of the City of Sterling, Illinois do hereby proclaim, November 24, 2018, as:

### SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

**And** urge the residents of our community, and communities across the country, to support small businesses and merchants on Small Business Saturday and throughout the year.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I hereunto set my hand and cause to be affixed the Seal of the City of Sterling, Illinois this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November 2018.

Mayor Charles L. "Skip" Lee

Attest:

Marie Rombouts, City Clerk