



## **Small Business Saturday Proclamation**

**Whereas**, according to the United States Small Business Administration, there are 30.7 million small businesses in the United States and representing 99.7 percent of all firms with paid employees in the United States, are responsible for 64.9 percent of net new jobs created; and

**Whereas**, small businesses employ 47.3 percent of the employees in the private sector in the United States; and

**Whereas**, 94% of consumers in the United States value the contributions small businesses make in their community; and

**Whereas**, 96% of consumers who plan to shop on Small Business Saturday® said the day inspires them to go to small, independently-owned retailers or restaurants that they have not been to before or would not have otherwise tried; and

**Whereas**, 92% of companies planning promotions on Small Business Saturday said the day helps their business stand out during the busy holiday shopping season and contributes significantly to their holiday sales each year; and

**Whereas**, Sterling, Illinois supports our local businesses because they create jobs, boost our local economy and preserve our communities; and

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

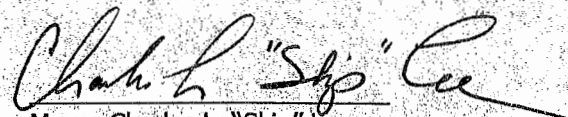
**Now, therefore**, I, Mayor Skip Lee of Sterling, Illinois, do hereby proclaim, November 30, 2019, as:

### ***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.

Attest:

  
City Clerk Marie Rombouts

  
Mayor Charles L. "Skip" Lee