



# *Executive Proclamation*

*WHEREAS*, Diwali, the Festival of Lights, is the largest and most anticipated holiday in Indian tradition and is celebrated every autumn during the Hindu month of Kartika; and

*WHEREAS*, Diwali is celebrated over five days, each with their own significance and traditions, with the rituals of highest importance occurring on the third day; and

*WHEREAS*, Diwali also marks the beginning of the new year, which is celebrated by family gatherings, gifts, and other traditions, as well as worship to Lakshmi, the Hindu goddess of wealth and prosperity; and

*WHEREAS*, During Diwali, oil lamps called diyas are lit to signify the belief that light will overcome the darkness, good will prevail over evil, and love win out hatred; and

*WHEREAS*, the holiday is a uniting force, as it is celebrated by the majority of people from India, regardless of their faith and is celebrated by more than one billion people worldwide; now, therefore

*I, DAVID CROWLEY*, County Executive of Milwaukee County, do hereby recognize the significance of

## *Diwali*

And its celebrations as it occurs this year, from November 2<sup>nd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> 2021.

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David Crowley  
Milwaukee County Executive