

Proclamation

Falls Prevention Awareness Month, September 2026

WHEREAS, the State of Idaho is one of the fastest growing states in the nation, including a significant increase in the percentage of older adults; and

WHEREAS, Twin Falls County takes great pride in providing an excellent quality of life for our residents while managing its fiscal responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, falls are the leading cause of accidental deaths and injuries among older adults with 33.6% of Idahoans age 65+ falling each year, which is higher than the national average; and

WHEREAS, 1 in 5 falls results in serious physical harm such as broken bones, and are the #1 cause of traumatic brain injury across all age groups; and

WHEREAS, Idahoans incur a total of \$164 million in costs related to falls each year with the average medical cost of a fall in Idaho being \$38,373 across all age groups, of which state Medicaid pays \$27 million, and Idahoans pay \$26 million privately or out-of-pocket; and

WHEREAS, falls often lead to additional psychosocial issues including depression, social isolation, decreased mobility, loss of independence, and early institutionalization; and

WHEREAS, the impact of falls on local infrastructure including emergency medical services (EMS), fire departments, emergency departments, critical access hospitals, trauma services, and long-term services and support is significant; and

WHEREAS, the Twin Falls County Commissioners recognize the importance of health, safety, security, and independence for all our residents; and

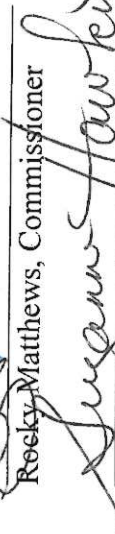
WHEREAS, most falls are avoidable with modest interventions, based on awareness and simple strategies that significantly reduce the risk of these debilitating and often fatal events; and

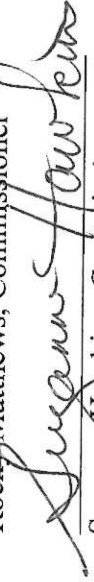
WHEREAS, public and private organizations and individuals throughout our community can effectively work together to provide education and guidance for individuals, families, and caregivers to reduce the devastating impact of falls on our residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, We, the Twin Falls County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim September 2026, to be Falls Prevention Awareness month. We urge every resident to learn simple strategies to identify risks and reduce falls in our community

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have set our hand, and caused to be affixed the Seal of Twin Falls County Idaho this 10 day of September, 2026.



Brent Reinke, Chairman

Rocky Matthews, Commissioner

Suzanne Hawkins, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kristina Glascock, Clerk