

2026 Public Service Recognition Week Sample Scripts

PSRW Background: Celebrated the first full week in May since 1985, Public Service Recognition Week (PSRW) honors those who serve our nation as federal, state, county and local government employees.

We encourage you to use any points from the scripts to film your **vertical facing (30-90 second) video** championing the public servants who continue to show up with perseverance and commitment to serve amid uncertainty.

Option 1: Who are public servants and their impact

Script 1:

- Public servants at all levels of government fuel America every day, in every community. Their contributions rarely make headlines, and we seldom recognize the vast array of work they do to keep us safe, strong, and healthy.
- Join me this Public Service Recognition Week for 5 days of action championing the public servants who continue to show up with perseverance and commitment to serve the American people. Learn more about how you can get involved at psrw.org

Script 2:

- Hundreds of thousands of civil servants have left the workforce in the last year through firings and pressure to resign. But many remain, and continue to show up, even as their work becomes immeasurably harder.
- Their contributions rarely make headlines, and we can take for granted all the ways they keep us safe, strong, and healthy.
- Their perseverance and commitment to serving us, the American people, is inspiring. This Public Service Recognition Week is our opportunity to champion them and all they do for us. Learn more about our 5 days of action and how to share your gratitude at ourpublicservice.org/psrw.

Script 3:

- These civil servants are not elected officials or political appointees, but rather merit-based career professionals that are everyday Americans, just like you, who took an oath to serve their country and their community. They make sure that your trip to one of the many national parks is an unforgettable experience. They ensure



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that the food served to your kids is safe. They help veterans and seniors access their benefits. They provide the weather forecasts we all rely on every morning. They work in research labs advancing medical breakthroughs and are first responders in the aftermath of disasters. They're working every day, in ways you see and ways you don't, to keep us safe, strong, and healthy.

- Public Service Recognition Week is our opportunity to champion them when they need it most. So join me in showing public servants across the country that we support them. Learn more about our 5 days of action and how to share your gratitude at ourpublicservice.org/psrw.

Script 4:

- Did you know that 80% of federal employees live and work outside the D.C. area? They're in your community right now, working to make things better.
- They're neighbors, parents, and veterans. They shop at the same stores as you, eat at the same restaurants, send their kids to the same schools, and have the same worries. And they wake up ready to provide us with the services we depend on every day.
- But when grants are terminated or delayed, experts are forced out and agencies are shuttered all together; it weakens our governments' ability to maintain the continuity of knowledge and expertise needed for an effective government.
- Our country depends on them, and right now they need our support. This Public Service Recognition Week, join me in showing public servants across the country that we're behind them. Learn more about our 5 days of action and how to share your gratitude at ourpublicservice.org/psrw.

Option 2: A Message to Every Public Servant

Script 1:

- The work you do as a public servant fuels every corner of our country. But we know that right now, that work has become harder than it's ever been.
- You've watched colleagues and respected leaders who believed deeply in the mission and have spent years, even decades, supporting everyday Americans leave through firings, forced relocations and pressure to resign. You've seen essential and successful programs shut down, and agencies close. You've navigated a landscape that has changed dramatically over the past year. And yet, you're still here.
- You show up every day with perseverance and commitment, even when it feels like no one sees you. Or when doing your job has become an act of courage.



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- We know that you are the backbone that our democracy depends on. You provide the expertise and institutional knowledge that keeps our systems functioning, and you honor your oath to serve the public good regardless of who is in office.
- What you do matters. Not just the big breakthroughs, but the everyday work that most people never think about until it's gone. The forms you process, the calls you answer, the data you maintain, the services you deliver. That's what keeps our country running.
- I want you to know that we see and recognize you. Not just the scientists and the heroes, but every single person who chooses to stay and serve. You are valued. Your work is essential.
- Thank you for staying. Thank you for showing up. Thank you for doing the work that keeps America running, everyday, in every community.

Option 3: Unscripted Respond to one or more of these questions with your own message

- Why do you think supporting public servants is necessary, now more than ever?
- Can you think of a time when a public servant helped you or made a difference in your life?
- If you could send one message of encouragement to public servants facing uncertainty right now, what would it be?
- How do public servants in your community make a difference in people's lives every day?