



Dear America,

Happy 250th birthday.

From Wichita, Kansas, we write with gratitude for what you have made possible and with a deep sense of responsibility for what comes next.

Our city sits in the heart of the country, but we have never seen ourselves as a place that simply watches history pass by. Wichita has always been a community of builders. We build aircraft, businesses, neighborhoods, careers, families and futures. We are a city shaped by entrepreneurs willing to take a risk, workers proud of their craft, service members and military families who understand duty, and community leaders who believe progress happens when people choose to show up for one another.

That spirit is part of America's story.

For 250 years, this country has been built by people who believed tomorrow could be better than today. Not perfect people. Not people who always agreed. But people who kept working and kept believing that America was worth fighting for.

In Wichita, we see it every day.

We see it in the small business owner who opens the doors before sunrise. We see it in the manufacturer training the next generation. We see it in the teacher preparing students for a world that will look different than the one we now know. We see it in the volunteer giving time to make a neighborhood stronger. We see it in the young professional choosing to build a life here. We see it in the military family making Wichita home.

These moments may not always make national headlines, but they are our foundation. America is built in places like Wichita, through hard work, ambition and community.

That is why we are proud to call this country home.

As the Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce, we believe businesses play an important role in that work. Business is more than commerce. At its heart, business creates opportunity. It gives people a path to provide for their families and invest in the community around them. It brings people together across backgrounds, industries and ideas. It

reminds us that progress requires trust and a shared commitment to something bigger than ourselves.

We believe America is at its best when communities like Wichita are strong. We believe pride is reflected in how we care for our neighbors, support our businesses, honor our service members and work together to solve hard problems.

So, America, on your birthday, our message from the heart of the country is this:

Thank you for the promise you continue to hold.

Thank you for the generations before us who built, sacrificed, served and led.

And as we look toward the next 250 years, know that Wichita will keep showing up.

Because the American story is still unfolding, and from Wichita, we are proud to help write what comes next.

With gratitude, pride and optimism,

Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce