

## 2013-J3810

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Justice John Savago upon the occasion of his retirement after 32 years of dedicated service to the Town of Gardiner, New York

WHEREAS, The quality and character of life in this Nation, and the great State of New York, is reflective of the purposeful lives and good works of those patriotic and civic-minded community members who dedicate their lives and careers to the service of others; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Justice John Savago upon the occasion of his retirement after 32 years of dedicated service to the Town of Gardiner, New York; and

WHEREAS, John Savago, the son of Charlie and Mary Savago, was born in Dobbs Ferry, New York; his family moved to New Paltz, and he graduated from New Paltz High School in 1963; one year later, he married his high school sweetheart, Jean Savago; and

WHEREAS, John Savago joined the New Paltz Police Force, where he served for 10 years, before beginning a new career with the United Parcel Service; and

WHEREAS, In 1974, John Savago and his wife moved to Gardiner, New York; in 1982, he ran for Town Justice and won the first of many elections, spanning the terms of eight Gardiner town Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, This veteran Justice, who never practiced law prior to taking the bench, took a crash course at Albany Law School when he was elected as Gardiner Town Judge; and

WHEREAS, Judge John Savago has treated defendants with compassion and dignity while at the same time remained firm; he is respected by both lawyers and defendants for his courteous, gracious demeanor when they came before him; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his long judicial career, John Savago has had the pleasure of performing many wedding ceremonies; he once married two rock climbers, taking the long way around to wait at the top of the pitch while their bridal party made a vertical ascent wearing climbing gear; Judge John Savago has also traveled abroad to perform weddings including a castle near the Cliffs of Moher in Ireland, and another on the island of St. Croix; and

WHEREAS, During his retirement, John Savago continues to nurture his lifelong passion of collecting vintage automobiles; his pride and joy is a 1955 Pontiac Starchief that has won numerous trophies over the years, including First Place in an all-Pontiac show in Rhode Island; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Jean, and their three children, Kenny, Joni, and Traci, as well as five grandchildren, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Judge John Savago, in every capacity in which he served, has left his permanent mark on the criminal justice community, and will forever be remembered as a determined, innovative, and genuinely concerned expert in his field; and

WHEREAS, A singular asset to all of the citizens he has served in the community of the State of New York, Judge John Savago's life and career are a portrait of preeminence in public service, and present a role model for all who aspire to a career in public service; and

WHEREAS, From time to time, this Legislative Body takes note of certain extraordinary individuals it wishes to recognize for their valued contributions to the success and progress of society and publicly acknowledge their endeavors which have enhanced the basic humanity among us all; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Justice John Savago upon the occasion of his retirement after 32 years of dedicated service to the Town of Gardiner, New York; and be it

further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to John Savago, Gardiner Town Judge.