

2013-J4713

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Trooper Joseph C. Kolek upon the occasion of his designation as the recipient of the Superintendent's Commendation Award on May 7, 2014

WHEREAS, The quality and sanctity of community life are cherished values, worthy of safeguarding; this Legislative Body is moved to honor those who preserve and protect such values, lauding particularly their unwavering courage and dedication in the daily performance of their duties; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Trooper Joseph C. Kolek upon the occasion of his designation as the recipient of the Superintendent's Commendation Award in recognition of his outstanding police work; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed man will be honored at the 38th Annual New York State Police Superintendent's Commendation and Awards Day Ceremony, to be held at the New York State Police Academy in Albany, New York, on Wednesday, May 7, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Joseph C. Kolek has served residents of the State of New York as a Trooper since January 7, 2002; and

WHEREAS, On January 19, 2013, Trooper Joseph C. Kolek responded to an Orange County 911 emergency reporting juveniles who had fallen through the ice in the Town of Wallkill; upon arrival he observed three young people trapped on top of ice in the middle of the lake, unable to reach safety; and

WHEREAS, Without hesitation or concern for his own safety, Trooper Joseph C. Kolek bravely entered the frigid water and began breaking a path through the ice to rescue the children; he cleared as much ice away as possible until the water became too deep; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Joseph C. Kolek, with the help of other first responders, was able to throw a rope to the trapped young people, which they then secured to themselves, and began moving towards rescue; and

WHEREAS, This remarkable law enforcement officer then picked up each child when they came into reach and carried them out of the water to safety; all of the children were transported to Orange Regional Medical Center, and successfully treated for exposure; and

WHEREAS, Through his courageous and heroic deeds, Trooper Joseph C. Kolek has demonstrated his character and concern for the welfare of others, embodying the hallmarks of the men and women of the New York State Police; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that Trooper Joseph C. Kolek should be meritoriously commended for remaining calm under pressure and for showing valor and true courage while performing a life-saving deed; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Trooper Joseph C. Kolek upon the occasion of his designation as the recipient of the Superintendent's Commendation Award; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Trooper Joseph C. Kolek.