

## 2013-J5370

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Gloria Smyth-Godinger upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2014 Merit Performance Award for Superior Work Performance in the New York County Supreme Court

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, Our local governments, our state and our nation have been strengthened by generations of Americans who felt a sense of responsibility to their community, to one another and to their families; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Gloria Smyth-Godinger upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2014 Merit Performance Award for Superior Work Performance in the New York County Supreme Court which was celebrated on Wednesday, April 30, 2014, at the 2014 Law Day Awards held at the New York State Court of Appeals in Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, Thirty-five years ago, Gloria Smyth-Godinger began her illustrious court career in Brooklyn Civil Court, distinguishing herself as a quick study with an eye for detail; and

WHEREAS, For the past 29 years, Gloria Smyth-Godinger has worked in New York County Supreme Court's Civil Term, starting as a courtroom clerk; always up to the challenge, she was typically assigned to the court parts with the most voluminous and complex caseloads; and

WHEREAS, In May 1997, Gloria Smyth-Godinger was selected to head the state's first Office for the Self-Represented, established to help unrepresented litigants by offering free legal and procedural information; she assembled a terrific team to lead this effort, making the office a model for other help centers that have since opened across the

state; and

WHEREAS, A few years later, Gloria Smyth-Godinger was again tapped to take on the role of clerk-in-charge of the court's Trial Support Office, which oversees case management-related functions; she worked diligently to promote best case management practices, and ensure adherence to time tables for resolving cases; and

WHEREAS, Dedicated to the enhancement of her profession, Gloria Smyth-Godinger also helped organize a neutral evaluation program to promote out-of-court settlements in personal injury and other matters, among other innovations; and

WHEREAS, Today, Gloria Smyth-Godinger is renowned for her amazing work stamina, and can-do attitude, as well as her institutional knowledge, and mastery of the many automated systems introduced by the court system in recent years; and

WHEREAS, This legendary public servant is widely regarded for her efforts as a mentor to both the court employees and countless high school, college, and law students who have interned at the New York State County Supreme Court over the years; and

WHEREAS, A singular asset to all of the citizens she has served in the State of New York, Gloria Smyth-Godinger's life and career are a portrait of preeminence in public service and serve as a role model for all who aspire to a career in public service; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, it is appropriate to publicly proclaim and commend those individuals for the edification and emulation of others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2014

Merit Performance Award for Superior Work Performance in the New York County Supreme Court; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be tran-

mitted to Gloria Smyth-Godinger.