

## 2015-K572

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Fire Chief/Lieutenant Colonel Martin J. Ingram upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the New York State Medal of Valor

WHEREAS, Citizens across our State and Nation are inspired by and indebted to our valiant firefighters who exhibit courage and bravery every day in the course of their duties; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend the caring concern and heroic acts of individuals who take prompt and appropriate action in emergency situations, nobly risking their own lives in an effort to preserve the life of another; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Fire Chief/Lieutenant Colonel Martin J. Ingram upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the New York State Medal of Valor, celebrated at a New York Guard Leaders Meeting on Saturday, March 14, 2015, at Camp Smith Training Site, Cortlandt Manor, New York; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Medal of Valor is awarded to any member of New York's organized militia, which is composed of the New York Army and Air National Guard, the New York Naval Militia, and the New York Guard; the state's highest military medal, it is awarded for acts of valor, heroism, courage or gallantry in either a civilian or military capacity; and

WHEREAS, Martin J. Ingram has led a life of selfless public service in many capacities, holding the positions of lifeguard, First Officer for New York Airways, and Fire Chief at the Point Breeze Volunteer Fire Department; in addition, he proudly served his country as a member of both the United States Air Force and the Federal Aviation Administration; and

WHEREAS, Since 2004, Lieutenant Colonel Martin J. Ingram has been a vital member of the New York Guard, a volunteer state defense force whose members augment the actions of the New York National Guard during state missions and state emergencies; and

WHEREAS, Currently, Lieutenant Colonel Martin J. Ingram serves as Commander of the New York Guard's 88th Brigade, headquartered at the 69th Regiment Armory; and

WHEREAS, A Queens resident, Martin J. Ingram is being recognized for his heroism while serving as Fire Chief of the Breezy Point Volunteer Fire Department on October 29, 2012, when Superstorm Sandy flooded the ocean front community, and the largest residential structural fire since 1865, destroyed many of the neighborhood's buildings; and

WHEREAS, This valiant firefighter led the efforts to evacuate citizens from rising flood waters, and entered a burning building to save a stranded resident, as well as extinguished the fire, saving other buildings from being destroyed; in addition, his positive attitude and tireless efforts to save his community inspired other members of his fire department to rally to the cause; and

WHEREAS, Subsequently, in 2013, Fire Chief Martin J. Ingram was the recipient of the New York State Volunteer Fire Chief of the Year Award for his courageous work during Superstorm Sandy; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Fire Chief/Lieutenant Colonel Martin J. Ingram has displayed throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, A true asset to society, Fire Chief/Lieutenant Colonel Martin J. Ingram's distinguished record merits the recognition and respectful tribute of this Legislative Body; and

WHEREAS, Fire Chief/Lieutenant Colonel Martin J. Ingram, throughout his spontaneous and heroic acts, has so aptly demonstrated his character and compassion for the welfare of others, personifying, by virtue of his action, the collective concern of citizens across the community of the

State of New York who voluntarily respond when others are in need of help; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Fire Chief/Lieutenant Colonel Martin J. Ingram upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the New York State Medal of Valor; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Fire Chief/Lieutenant Colonel Martin J. Ingram.