



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Jack M. Martins

## Senator Martins Presents Elmont Army Sergeant WITH Senate Liberty Medal

[JACK M. MARTINS](#) September 26, 2014

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### **Staff Sergeant Jason Scarlata Receives Honor After Returning Home From His Fifth Overseas Deployment**

New York State Senator Jack M. Martins (R-Mineola) today presented the New York State Senate Liberty Medal to US Army Staff Sergeant Jason Scarlata of Elmont, who just returned home from serving in Afghanistan. Senator Martins presented the medal at his office surrounded by Staff Sergeant Scarlata's family, including his wife and 18 month old son.

Staff Sergeant Scarlata, who grew up in Elmont and graduated from New Hyde Park Memorial High School, just completed his fifth overseas deployment, four of which were in Afghanistan and Iraq. He is a decorated combat veteran, having earned numerous awards including the Bronze Star, three Army commendations and five Army achievement medals.

“Staff Sergeant Jason Scarlata is a true American hero. He has literally spent years away from his loved ones serving in harm’s way to defend our freedom. Jason is a role model who exemplifies everything that’s great about our community. It’s an honor to present him with this award and show our appreciation for his brave and devoted service to our country,” said Senator Martins.

The New York State Senate Liberty Medal is one of the highest civilian honors that a New Yorker can receive. Similar to the national Congressional Gold Medal, the award is given to individuals who have merited special commendation for exceptional, heroic, or humanitarian acts and achievements on behalf of their fellow New Yorkers.