

2015-J5681

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Technical Sergeant Jay D. Cook upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Superintendent's Commendation Award by the New York State Police on May 26, 2016

WHEREAS, The quality and sanctity of community life are cherished values worthy of safeguarding, and this Legislative Body is moved to honor those exemplary public servants who devote their lives to preserving and protecting such values; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Technical Sergeant Jay D. Cook upon the occasion of his designation as a recipient of the Superintendent's Commendation Award by the New York State Police to be celebrated at the 40th Annual Awards Day Ceremony on Thursday, May 26, 2016, at the University at Albany Performing Arts Center, Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, Technical Sergeant Jay D. Cook has proudly served as a member of the New York State Police since April 4, 1994; he is currently assigned to the State Police Traffic Incident Management Team, where he serves as Supervisor, Troop B, and resides in Burke, New York; and

WHEREAS, After the escape of two inmates, Richard Matt and David Sweat, from Clinton Correctional Facility on June 6, 2015, Technical Sergeant Jay Cook assumed a lead role as a Patrol Supervisor coordinating the response of Troopers assigned to his strike team after numerous sightings and reports of suspicious activity were reported; and

WHEREAS, Led by Technical Sergeant Jay D. Cook, countless buildings were searched, and, when the search area expanded to the Chateaugay area, Sergeant Cook's knowledge of the North Country region was instrumental during the coordination of search activities as well as communicating with the local residents; and

WHEREAS, On June 28, 2015, the search came to an end when Technical Sergeant Jay D. Cook was by himself patrolling on Coveytown Road, in the Town of Constable, Franklin County, and recognized a man walking on the road as David Sweat; realizing he was seen, the suspect fled across a hayfield and Sergeant Cook pursued him for over 100 yards before discharging his firearm and subsequently taking him into custody, and shortly thereafter, coordinated his immediate medical care which undoubtedly contributed to saving his life; and

WHEREAS, Technical Sergeant Jay D. Cook's heroic actions successfully concluded the 23-day manhunt, and prevented a dangerous escapee from likely absconding into Canada, greatly complicating the search effort, and placing numerous innocent lives at risk; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proud to recognize the caring concern and heroic acts of those police officers who take prompt and appropriate action in emergency situations, and in doing so, help others to avert life-threatening danger; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those extraordinary individuals who unselfishly devote their lives to the preservation of order and the protection of others are worthy and due full praise for their commitment and noble endeavors; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Technical Sergeant Jay D. Cook upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Superintendent's Commendation Award by the New York State Police; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Technical Sergeant Jay D. Cook.