

2017-J3108

Senate Resolution No. 3108

BY: Senator YOUNG

COMMENDING Tom and Becky Simsick upon the occasion of their designation as recipients of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize the caring concern and heroic acts of those exemplary citizens, who take prompt and appropriate action in emergency situations, and in doing so, help others to avert life-threatening danger; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Tom and Becky Simsick upon the occasion of their designation as recipients of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Senate Liberty Medal was established by Resolution and is awarded to individuals who have merited special commendation for exceptional, heroic, or humanitarian acts on behalf of their fellow New Yorkers; and

WHEREAS, Tom and Becky Simsick had just pulled onto the berm near Marilla Reservoir in Bradford on Sunday, August 13, 2017, when a truck careened past their parked vehicle in the opposite direction and crashed

into a tree; and

WHEREAS, The accident occurred after the driver of the pickup truck lost control of his vehicle while traveling west from Bradford, before striking a tree head-on; and

WHEREAS, Within seconds of the accident and with complete disregard for their own safety, the Olean, New York couple ran to the wrecked truck several yards away and pulled the unconscious driver from his vehicle just minutes before it caught on fire; and

WHEREAS, Tom and Becky Simsick carried the victim of the crash a safe distance from the fire and immediately called for help; the driver of the pickup truck was taken to Bradford Medical Center for his injuries and has since recovered; and

WHEREAS, Through their voluntary commitment to respond as concerned citizens, and to protect the safety and welfare of their neighbors and community, Tom and Becky Simsick have unselfishly contributed to the advancement of that spirit of united purpose and shared concern which is the cornerstone of community life in this State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when an act of such heroism is brought to our official attention, the same should be memorialized for the edification and emulation of all; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Tom and Becky Simsick upon the occasion of their designation as

recipients of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Tom and Becky Simsick.