

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring the four officers of the Lockport Police Department for their selfless acts of heroism during a rescue attempt

WHEREAS, It is the sense 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 while in the course of performing their job duties; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor the four officers of the Lockport Police Department for their selfless acts of heroism during a rescue attempt; and

WHEREAS, On Monday, March 18, 2013, Lieutenant Todd Chenez and Officer Michael Stover were off-duty training for an upcoming marathon race; hearing approaching sirens, they engaged in a high risk courageous rescue of an unconscious victim in a house fire; and

WHEREAS, Approaching the home, the officers entered and were forced to retreat due to the extremely limited visibility along with the thick black smoke; as they emerged, the spouse of the victim advised them that her husband may be in the basement; and

WHEREAS, Both officers again entered the home and despite the limited visibility, were able to locate the victim; finding him unconscious, the officers made several attempts to lift the victim, but due to the victim's physical size and the obvious lack of breathable air, they were unable to move the victim to safety and were again forced to retreat from the home; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Chenez and Officer Stover were ready to enter the home for a third attempt at a rescue and were joined by on-duty Police Officers Anthony Pittman and Heather Rohde, who had just arrived at the scene; the four officers ran into the smoke-filled building and were able to lift the unconscious victim to safety; and

WHEREAS, The victim was immediately examined by Lockport Fire Department Paramedics who determined that he had no pulse and was not breathing; after a significant effort, paramedics and local hospital emergency room staff were able to successfully revive the victim; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body, representing the people of this great State of New York, is proud to recognize and commend Lieutenant Todd Chenez and Officers Michael Stover, Anthony Pittman and Heather Rohde for their professionalism as well as their consummate bravery while performing their duties, which serves as an inspiration to us all; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor the four officers of the Lockport Police Department for their selfless acts of heroism during a rescue attempt; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Lieutenant Todd Chenez and Officers Michael Stover, Anthony Pittman and Heather Rohde.