

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Police Chief John J. Swick and Sheriff's Deputy Shannon Rodgers in recognition of their heroic actions in rescuing two women and four children from an apartment fire

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, remaining calm under pressure, in an effort to preserve the life of another; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Police Chief John J. Swick of the Middleport Police Department, and Shannon Rodgers of the Niagara County Sheriff's Office, in recognition of their heroic actions in rescuing two women and four children from an apartment fire on Wednesday, January 8, 2014; and

WHEREAS, After receiving an emergency call reporting a fire that morning, Police Chief Swick and Deputy Rodgers rushed to be first on the scene; upon arrival at the flame-engulfed two-story apartment building, they were informed that there was still a family trapped on the second floor; and

WHEREAS, Reacting swiftly, the two officers used their astute judgment and gained access to a rear window; all four endangered children were lowered down to Police Chief Swick and Deputy Rodgers, and the last two remaining adults climbed down a ladder, also to safety; and

WHEREAS, Thanks to the selfless efforts of Police Chief John J. Swick and Sheriff's Deputy Rodgers, all residents of the building were successfully rescued; and

WHEREAS, Police Chief John J. Swick and Sheriff's Deputy Shannon Rodgers should both be meritoriously commended for remaining calm under pressure and for showing valor and true courage while performing a life-saving deed; and

WHEREAS, Through these courageous acts, these two heroic individuals demonstrated their character and compassion for the welfare of others, personifying the collective concern of ordinary citizens across the community of New York State who voluntarily respond without the thought of danger or reward when others are in need of help; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Police Chief John J. Swick and Sheriff's Deputy Shannon Rodgers in recognition of their heroic actions in rescuing two women and four children from an apartment fire; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Police Chief John J. Swick of the Middleport Police Department, and Deputy Shannon Rodgers of the Niagara County Sheriff's Office.