

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Yonkers Police Benevolent Association on March 4, 2016

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those organizations and individuals who would devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Yonkers Police Benevolent Association to be celebrated at its Annual Installation of Officers and Awards Dinner on Friday, March 4, 2016, at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, Tarrytown, New York; and

WHEREAS, For 100 years, the Yonkers Police Benevolent Association (PBA) has promoted the welfare of its members and aided them in need for their mutual benefit and protection; this vital organization has continually strived to be the protector of those who protect; and

WHEREAS, In 1871, when the Yonkers Police Department was formally organized, there was an established set of relatively strict rules and regulations which members were required to adhere to; any failure to comply with these rules was often met with harsh punishment and penalties being placed against the offending police officer; and

WHEREAS, In addition, the working schedules for the police officer in those early days were very difficult on family life, allowing very little time off; for these and many other reasons, including the natural tendency to join together with others of mutual interest, it was decided to form an organization which could benefit its members; and

WHEREAS, The Yonkers Police Association (YPA) was thereby formed to combat unfair treatment of the men and women on the Yonkers Police Department; on September 8, 1916, A. S. Tompkins, Justice of the Supreme Court, Westchester County, New York, officially approved and signed the organization's certificate of incorporation; and

WHEREAS, Patrolman John F. Dahill was elected as the YPA's first President; the following year, on February 15, 1917, this vital association held its First Annual Entertainment and Dinner Dance Reception at Philipsburg Hall on Hudson Street; and

WHEREAS, The YPA was managed by five directors, consisting of one member from Police Headquarters, and one member from each precinct in the City of Yonkers; the original directors were Police Officers George A. Ford, William A. Kruppenbacher, Michael J. Gilmartin, and Abraham Beck, as well as David J. Davis; and

WHEREAS, Besides supporting its members, the Yonkers PBA has supported many community organizations throughout its 100 year history including the American Heart Association of America, the Asthma/Allergy Foundation, Police Athletic League, B.P.O.E. Elks, Ronald McDonald House, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Rosary Hill Home, Breast Cancer Research, Special Olympics, Cancer Society Parks and Recreation, Special Olympics Torch Run, Chamber of Commerce, St. John's Hospital, Christ the King Church, St. Patrick's Day Committee Christmas Party, The C.R.Y.S.T.L.E. Closet, Inc., Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, D.A.R.E., East Yonkers Boys and Girls Club, Untermeyer Performing Arts Foundation, V.F.W. Post 1666, Make a Wish Foundation, Westchester Burn Center, Westchester Emerald Society, and P. S. 5 Disabled Children Picnic, as well as the Westchester Victims Assistance Program; and

WHEREAS, Today, the Yonkers Police Benevolent Association, formerly known as the Yonkers Police Association, continues to serve as a strong advocate and effective voice for its entire membership; while working to

foster a spirit of camaraderie amongst its members, the organization also works toward developing a greater understanding, mutual respect, and a helpful relationship with the citizens its members serve so proudly; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those organizations which enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Yonkers Police Benevolent Association on March 4, 2016; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Yonkers Police Benevolent Association.