

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Investigator James J. Durkin upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Superintendent's Commendation Award by the New York State Police

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, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor James J. Durkin upon the occasion of his designation as 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, Investigator James J. Durkin has proudly served as a member of the New York State Police since April 30, 1997; he is currently assigned to NYDETF, Troop NYC, and resides in Chester, New York; and

WHEREAS, On May 17, 2015, Investigator James J. Durkin, as a member of the New York Drug Enforcement Task Force Group T-31, participated in the seizure of 74 kilograms of heroin, along with approximately two million dollars in United States currency and a loaded handgun; and

WHEREAS, Investigator James J. Durkin along with Group T-31 had conducted a month's long investigation utilizing physical and electronic surveillance to identify members of a Drug Trafficking Organization; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, the members of the group were able to determine the locations of several stash houses and the vehicle used in transporting the narcotics and narcotic proceeds through New York City and the New Jersey area; and

WHEREAS, After executing search warrants, the heroin, currency and handgun were secured, and two suspects were arrested; and

WHEREAS, The seizure of 74 kilograms of heroin is the largest seizure of heroin in the New York area and the fourth largest within the United States by the DEA or a DEA Task force, with a street value of approximately 40 million dollars; and

WHEREAS, Through his heroic actions, Investigator James J. Durkin demonstrated his character and compassion for the welfare of others, personifying the collective concern of public servants across the community of the State of New York who respond when others are in need of help; 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 Investigator James J. Durkin 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 Investigator James J. Durkin.