

BY: Senator KENNEDY

COMMENDING Captain Steve Nichols, upon the occasion of his retirement after 23 years of service to the Buffalo Police Department

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and honor those distinguished officers who would devote themselves to public service, demonstrating great courage and diligence in providing for the care and welfare of the citizens of their communities and this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Within every community of the State of New York there are certain individuals who, by virtue of their commitment and dedication, command the respect and admiration of their community for their exemplary contributions and service on behalf of others; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Captain Steve Nichols, upon the occasion of his retirement after 23 years of service to the Buffalo Police Department; he officially retired from the Department in December of 2020; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his career which spanned more than two decades, Captain Steve Nichols truly epitomized the role of a community police officer beginning with an ad for a chance to win an ice cream social; thinking it would be fun for the young people in the Ferry-Fillmore District (C-District), he partnered with the Crucial Center on Moselle Street to host the party; and

WHEREAS, Captain Steve Nichols and the Crucial Center then held a bicycle drive where they collected 100 bikes for the local kids; he went on to hold several more drives and ultimately, donated thousands of bikes to the youth of Buffalo; and

WHEREAS, Captain Steve Nichols also became involved with the city's Weed and Seed crime-reduction initiative and began working with the city's anti-violence groups the Back to Basics Ministry, the Stop the Violence Coalition and Fathers; and

WHEREAS, Captain Steve Nichols eventually became the department's coordinator for all community policing, from overseeing the five districts' community police officers to heading the Neighborhood Engagement Team to re-starting the department's Citizens Academy; and

WHEREAS, Always looking for better ways to serve the community, Captain Steve Nichols diligently worked to bridge the gap with Buffalo's new immigrant communities by providing cards for non-English speaking people to carry that identify their language, which they can show to police when they need help; and

WHEREAS, During the last couple months of his employment, Captain Steve Nichols navigated the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and

continued to work on various events such as the annual Shop with a Cop and several turkey and gift giveaways; and

WHEREAS, Captain Steve Nichols will always be remembered for his role in building a relationship between the Buffalo Police Department and the city's varied communities; he loved his job and his fellow Buffalonians and has left an enduring legacy for all of his fellow officers to follow; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his tenure, Captain Steve Nichols truly served the residents of the City of Buffalo with compassion, integrity, and fairness, attributes which will forever serve as an example for his fellow officers; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those dedicated public servants 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 commend Captain Steve Nichols, upon the occasion of his retirement after more than 23 years of service to the Buffalo Police Department, and to wish him well in all his future endeavors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Captain Steve Nichols.