

**BY:** Senator REICHLIN-MELNICK

**COMMENDING** Carlos Ramiro Yaque and Edwin A. Santa Cruz upon the occasion of their designation as recipients of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate

**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 in an effort to preserve the life of another; and

**WHEREAS,** Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Carlos Ramiro Yaque and Edwin A. Santa Cruz upon the occasion of their designation as recipients of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate; and

**WHEREAS,** The New York State Senate Liberty Medal was established by Resolution and is awarded to individuals who have merited special commendation for exceptional, heroic, or humanitarian acts on behalf of their fellow New Yorkers; and

**WHEREAS,** Carlos Ramiro Yaque from Spring Valley, New York, and Edwin A. Santa Cruz from Airmont, New York, were busy performing landscaping work in a backyard on the afternoon of July 7, 2022, when they noticed a disturbance in a neighboring pool; and

**WHEREAS,** After witnessing a homeowner struggling to rescue a woman from his pool to no avail, these courageous men swiftly entered the pool area where they immediately and without hesitation, jumped into the pool; and

**WHEREAS,** With the help of both men working together, they were able to lift the woman out of the water and began performing first aid and CPR as others present called for EMS; within minutes, members of the Ramapo Police Department and Hatzolah EMS arrived on the scene; and

**WHEREAS,** Due to the quick thinking and selfless response of Carlos Ramiro Yaque and Edwin A. Santa Cruz, the woman was not only alive, but responsive at the scene; she was taken to Good Samaritan Hospital where she fully recovered; and

**WHEREAS,** Two truly brave and courageous men, Carlos Ramiro Yaque and Edwin A. Santa Cruz played a vital role in this extraordinary rescue effort, and should be praised by the people of this great Empire State for their astute actions in preserving the life of another; and

**WHEREAS,** Moreover, Carlos Ramiro Yaque and Edwin A. Santa Cruz should be meritoriously commended for remaining calm under pressure and for showing valor and true courage while performing a lifesaving deed;

and

**WHEREAS,** Carlos Ramiro Yaque and Edwin A. Santa Cruz, in their spontaneous and heroic acts, have so aptly demonstrated their character and compassion for the welfare of others, personifying, by virtue of their action, the collective concern of ordinary citizens across the community of New York State who voluntarily respond without 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 commend Carlos Ramiro Yaque and Edwin A. Santa Cruz upon the occasion of their designation as recipients of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Carlos Ramiro Yaque and Edwin A. Santa Cruz.