

BY: Senator CLEARE

HONORING nine brave FDNY First Responders in recognition of their prompt and heroic actions on February 23, 2024

WHEREAS, Citizens across our State and Nation are inspired by and indebted to our noble firefighters, EMTs, and Medics who exhibit courage and bravery every day in the course of their duties; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom 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 and property of another; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor nine brave FDNY Firefighters in recognition of their prompt and heroic actions; and

WHEREAS, New York's Bravest defended their title Friday, February 23, 2024, when they saved three people dangling from the window of a burning building in Harlem, New York, with only a rope in a dramatic and dangerous rescue; and

WHEREAS, Ladder 28 Firefighter Michael Kotzo, Ladder 28 Probationary Firefighter Jason Lopez, Squad 41 Firefighter Thomas Morrison, Squad 41 Firefighter Matthew Nolan, and Rescue 3 Firefighter Matthew Murphy worked together through actions of the most heroic magnitude, rappelling down the side of 2 St. Nicholas Place with the civilians in their arms as the raging fire tore through the apartment building; furthermore, FDNY 10H2 EMT Eisen and EMT Cordiero, as well as FDNY 12R2 Medic Yu and Medic Barnes were instrumental in the lifesaving rescue of trapped residents; and

WHEREAS, The blaze broke out on the third floor of the six-story building and quickly overtook the hallways, blocking residents of higher floors from reaching the stairwell; with no way out, the three residents fled to the window, only to realize there was no fire escape to flee to safety; and

WHEREAS, This left these noble firemen with no other option than to deploy the uncommon and daring rescue method called the "life-saving rope evolution"; and

WHEREAS, In addition to acknowledging these five brave men, members from Rescue 3, Ladder 45, Ladder 34, and Squad 41 actively fought the blaze and should be meritoriously commended for their sacrifices and selfless dedication; and

WHEREAS, Ladder 28 Firefighter Michael Kotzo, Ladder 28 Probationary

Firefighter Jason Lopez, Squad 41 Firefighter Thomas Morrison, Squad 41 Firefighter Matthew Nolan, Rescue 3 Firefighter Matthew Murphy, EMT Eisen, EMT Cordiero, Medic Yu, and Medic Barnes, have consistently demonstrated a level of commitment, dedication, integrity, and professionalism which truly exemplifies the finest traditions of the New York City Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that we should give special recognition to those who work so assiduously for the betterment of their communities, and acknowledge publicly the heroic actions performed by the courageous firefighters of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor nine brave FDNY First Responders in recognition of their prompt and heroic actions on February 23, 2024; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Ladder 28 Firefighter Michael Kotzo, Ladder 28 Probationary Firefighter Jason Lopez, Squad 41 Firefighter Thomas Morrison, Squad 41 Firefighter Matthew Nolan, Rescue 3 Firefighter Matthew Murphy, EMT Eisen, EMT Cordiero, Medic Yu, and Medic Barnes.