

BY: Senator PARKER

COMMENDING the NYPD Guardians Association upon the occasion of hosting its Annual Scholarship & Awards Dinner Dance on March 6, 2026

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those distinguished organizations whose commitment to justice, community engagement, and youth empowerment strengthens the social fabric of our State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the NYPD Guardians Association upon the occasion of hosting its Annual Scholarship & Awards Dinner Dance to be held on Friday, March 6, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Established to promote fairness, equity, and the advancement of African-American members within the New York City Police Department, the NYPD Guardians Association has long stood as a pillar of advocacy, mentorship, and community partnership, working to foster trust between law enforcement and the communities they serve; and

WHEREAS, Through its scholarship initiatives, community outreach, and leadership development efforts, the Association continues to invest in the educational aspirations of young people, ensuring that future generations are equipped to lead with integrity and purpose; and

WHEREAS, This year's Scholarship & Awards Dinner Dance proudly recognizes a distinguished class of honorees whose professional excellence, courageous service, and community commitment reflect the highest ideals of public safety and civic leadership; and

WHEREAS, Among those honored is Assistant Chief Aaron Edwards whose exemplary command presence and dedication to operational excellence have strengthened policing practices and community relations throughout New York City; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Chief Melody Robinson is recognized for her trailblazing leadership, steadfast professionalism, and commitment to mentoring the next generation of law enforcement leaders; and

WHEREAS, Section Commander Jason S. Jackson is commended for his strategic leadership, administrative acumen, and unwavering dedication to departmental advancement and public service; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Divinah "Dee" Bailey, Chief Operating Officer of the African American Clergy & Elected Officials, is honored for her transformative work, bridging faith, advocacy, and public policy, and tireless commitment to community empowerment and social justice; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Carlos Aviles is recognized for his distinguished

service, supervisory leadership, and steadfast dedication to protecting and serving the residents of New York City; and

WHEREAS, Assistant Commissioner Alden Foster is commended for his executive leadership, administrative innovation, and commitment to strengthening departmental operations and accountability; and

WHEREAS, Assistant Commissioner Yonette Graham-Decaul is celebrated for her impactful leadership, community engagement, and commitment to advancing equity within public safety institutions; and

WHEREAS, Citywide PBA Trustee Police Officer Lethimyle Cleveland is honored for her advocacy on behalf of fellow officers, ensuring fairness, representation, and support for those who serve; and

WHEREAS, Detective Christopher Charles is recognized for his investigative excellence, dedication to justice, and unwavering commitment to safeguarding the public; and

WHEREAS, Collectively, these honorees exemplify courage, integrity, leadership, and service, embodying the mission of the NYPD Guardians Association and inspiring confidence in the noble profession of law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting and proper that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to recognize the significance of this celebratory occasion and to applaud both the Association and its honorees for their enduring contributions to public safety and community uplift; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the NYPD Guardians Association, upon the occasion of hosting its Annual Scholarship & Awards Dinner Dance on March 6, 2026, and to extend sincere appreciation to its leadership, members, and supporters for their continued commitment to service, scholarship, and community advancement; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the NYPD Guardians Association and to each of the aforementioned honorees in recognition of this distinguished occasion.