

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Deputy Sheriff Jeremy Yela of the Orange County Sheriff's Department upon the occasion of his designation by the New York State Sheriffs' Association as the Deputy of the Year

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to honor and pay just tribute to those singular individuals who devote their purposeful lives to serving others, expressing its highest regard for their unwavering dedication, courage and personal sacrifice in putting the safety and welfare of others before their own; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to recognize and honor Deputy Sheriff Jeremy Yela of the Orange County Sheriff's Department upon the occasion of his designation by the New York State Sheriffs' Association as the Deputy of the Year; and

WHEREAS, A resident of Montgomery, New York, Deputy Sheriff Yela is the recipient of this statewide honor awarded annually to a Deputy Sheriff who has displayed outstanding courage and heroism in the line of duty; Deputy Sheriff Yela has certainly done so; and

WHEREAS, The incident for which Deputy Sheriff Yela received this high honor began in February of 2009 at G.W.'s Sports Grill in the Chester Mall when a patron was kicked out of the bar and became enraged afterwards; the angry patron then got into his silver SUV and sped toward the bouncer and another man who were standing outside the bar; at some point, the driver struck the bouncer, who suffered a broken leg; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Sheriff Yela, who was off-duty, identified himself as a police officer several times as he tried to stop the driver; he then pulled his gun and shot the rampaging driver, who died from his wounds; and

WHEREAS, A 12-year veteran who handles drug and bomb sniffing dogs for the department's K-9 unit, Deputy Sheriff Yela's intervention protected the crowd in front of the bar from an unpredictable chain of events; and

WHEREAS, Having demonstrated his unconditional commitment to serve and protect, Deputy Sheriff Yela has justly earned the admiration and respect of his peers, the community and its citizens; this Legislative Body is proud to now add its commendation, paying tribute to Deputy Sheriff Yela for his courage, professionalism and commitment to his community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Deputy Sheriff Jeremy Yela of the Orange County Sheriff's Department upon the occasion of his designation by the New York State Sheriffs' Association as the Deputy of the Year, and to express its pride and gratitude to him on behalf of the people of the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Deputy Sheriff Jeremy Yela.