

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Lieutenant John F. Bourges upon the occasion of receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Police Defense Foundation on May 13, 2010

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize those individuals of preeminent character whose lives exemplify the highest ideals of humanity and whose lifework and civic endeavor serve to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Lieutenant John F. Bourges upon the occasion of receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Police Defense Foundation at its Annual Awards Dinner to be held on Thursday, May 13, 2010, at Russo's on the Bay, Howard Beach, New York; and

WHEREAS, A man of singular distinction, Lieutenant John F. Bourges has continually demonstrated extreme competence, extraordinary intelligence and diligent leadership in his unwavering service to his community and professions and consequently has been designated for this most prestigious award; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant John F. Bourges comes from a business family whose roots in the artist community date back to 1918; he sought a different pursuit and chose to serve his community by becoming a New York City Police Officer in July of 1981; he served in several commands where he distinguished himself through his dedication and professionalism; he was a street cop, a Narcotics Investigator, a Detective Squad Investigator and, ultimately, a Homicide Detective; and

WHEREAS, After his long and illustrious career in law enforcement, for which he was recognized with several medals and commendations, Lieutenant John F. Bourges retired to pursue another service-oriented career; he became a nurse, having graduated with honors from his nursing program; and

WHEREAS, In 2007, John F. Bourges decided that he had not given enough of himself and went on active military duty with the 325th Combat Support Hospital; he was assigned to Al Asad and Balad in Iraq; he was detached to the 332nd Expeditionary Medical Group, Intensive Care Unit and applied all his skills to save our Nation's men and women, our brave soldiers; he also cared for infants, pediatric and civilians with critical injuries; during his tour, he implemented new and innovative procedures for critical care nursing, saving countless lives; and

WHEREAS, John F. Bourges was released from active duty in June of 2008 after having been awarded multiple medals and commendations for his service to his country; upon the completion of his military service, he returned to his nursing career and continues to serve and care for his patients; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Phyllis, and his daughter, Samantha, both of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the occurrence of such a compassionate blending of strength, intellect and commitment as that demonstrated by Lieutenant John F. Bourges over a lifetime of sacrifice and dedication to others; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to

honor Lieutenant John F. Bourges upon the occasion of receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Police Defense Foundation on May 13, 2010; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Lieutenant John F. Bourges.