

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Deputy Joseph Steyer and Police Officer Christopher Helsmoortel upon the occasion of receiving the Police Chiefs Association of Ulster County's Meritorious Police Service Heroism Award on May 4, 2011

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and honor those distinguished officers and citizens who would devote themselves to public service, demonstrating great courage and diligence in providing for the care and welfare of the citizens of their communities and this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Within every community of the State of New York, there are certain individuals who, by virtue of their commitment and dedication, command the respect and admiration of their community for their exemplary contributions and service on behalf of others; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Deputy Joseph Steyer and Police Officer Christopher Helsmoortel upon the occasion of receiving the Police Chiefs Association of Ulster County's Meritorious Police Service Heroism Award, to be celebrated at its Annual Awards Banquet on Wednesday, May 4, 2011 at Wiltwyck Golf Club in Kingston, New York; and

WHEREAS, Ulster County Sheriff's Deputy Joseph Steyer and Town of Saugerties Police Officer Christopher Helsmoortel are being recognized for taking immediate action at great personal risk, resulting in the heroic rescue of multiple citizens; and

WHEREAS, On June 4, 2010, Deputy Joseph Steyer and Police Officer Christopher Helsmoortel reacted promptly to a call to help a woman who had fallen off a cliff; at great danger to themselves, both men rappelled off the cliff, rescuing the woman and bringing her to safety; and

WHEREAS, Immediately after the first rescue, Deputy Joseph Steyer and Police Officer Christopher Helsmoortel were called to action, once again, to retrieve two stranded rescuers who had also become trapped on the cliff; the heroes, again, risked their own lives, rappelling down the cliff to bring two more individuals to safety; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those dedicated public servants who unselfishly devote their lives to the preservation of order and the protection of others are worthy and due full praise for their commitment and noble endeavors; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Deputy Joseph Steyer and Police Officer Christopher Helsmoortel upon the occasion of receiving the Police Chiefs Association of Ulster County's Meritorious Police Service Heroism Award on May 4, 2011; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Deputy Joseph Steyer and Police Officer Christopher Helsmoortel.