

BY: Senator KAMINSKY

COMMENDING Jean D'Haiti upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize and acknowledge those within our midst who have made significant contributions to the quality of life therein; and

WHEREAS, From time to time this Legislative Body takes note of certain extraordinary individuals it wishes to recognize for their valued contributions to the success and progress of society and publicly acknowledge their endeavors which have enhanced the basic humanity among us all; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Jean D'Haiti upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Senate Liberty Medal was established by Resolution and is awarded to individuals who have merited special commendation for exceptional, heroic, or humanitarian acts on behalf of their fellow New Yorkers; and

WHEREAS, Jean D'Haiti, a resident of Valley Stream, has been a New York State Trooper with the Valley Stream State Police since 2006; prior to this position, he worked for the New York Police Department; and

WHEREAS, On February 15, 2017, Trooper Jean D'Haiti stopped a motorist on the Southern State Parkway in the town of Hempstead, Nassau County, for texting while driving; he determined that the driver's license and vehicle registration were both suspended and told the driver that his vehicle would have to be impounded; and

WHEREAS, When Trooper Jean D' Haiti asked for the driver's keys to the vehicle, the driver became distraught and refused to comply; a struggle ensued and the driver managed to get the keys back in the ignition and start the vehicle, which left Trooper D'Haiti hanging halfway outside the vehicle from the driver's side; and

WHEREAS, The motorist then drove across three lanes of traffic with Trooper Jean D'Haiti being dragged outside; the vehicle crashed into the concrete divider on the parkway and Trooper D'Haiti's head hit the door frame, causing severe lacerations; and

WHEREAS, The driver escaped the vehicle from the passenger side door, but despite the injuries he sustained, Trooper Jean D'Haiti followed after him and was able to gain control of the suspect and detain him until further assistance arrived; and

WHEREAS, For his actions, Trooper Jean D'Haiti has received recognition on the local, state, and national level; the Elmont American Legion Post 1033 presented him with its award for outstanding service in law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, In May of 2018, Trooper Jean D'Haiti was presented with the State Police Superintendent's Accommodation, the second highest honor a New York State officer can receive; in addition, he was awarded the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund's Officer of the Month in October of 2017 for his bravery; 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; Jean D'Haiti is one such individual; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the quality of life in their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to the maintenance of such high standards, 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 commend Jean D'Haiti upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Jean D'Haiti.