

Senate Resolution No. 2691

**BY:** Senator RITCHIE

**COMMENDING** City of Oswego Police Officer Daniel Balloni upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate

**WHEREAS,** It is the sense of this legislative body to recognize and commend the caring concern and heroic acts of people who take prompt and appropriate action in emergency situations, nobly risking their lives to respond when others are in need of help; and

**WHEREAS,** Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend City of Oswego Police Officer Daniel Balloni upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 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,** In late December of 2019, Oswego Police Officers were called to an emergency at West Linear Park after people nearby heard a woman screaming for help, and

**WHEREAS,** Officer Daniel Balloni and three other officers arrived on scene to find a 20 year-old woman struggling in the Oswego River; and

**WHEREAS,** The officers threw a lifesaving ring into the river, hoping the woman could retrieve it and hold on as they pulled her back to shore, however, she was unable to do so; and

**WHEREAS,** Without concern for his own safety, Officer Daniel Balloni climbed over the river's guard rail, jumped into the cold waters, and took hold of the woman, who by then was submerged a few inches underwater; and

**WHEREAS,** Meanwhile, the other officers found a nearby grate on shore, flipped it down and climbed onto it to pull Officer Daniel Balloni and the victim out of the water; and

**WHEREAS,** After reaching safety, both Officer Daniel Balloni and the woman were immediately taken to a nearby hospital and treated for hypothermia; and

**WHEREAS,** The brave and courageous actions of City of Oswego Police Officer Daniel Balloni and his fellow officers played a vital role in this rescue effort and they should be praised by the people of the great Empire State for preserving the life of another; and

**WHEREAS,** City of Oswego Police Officer Daniel Balloni, through his spontaneous and heroic acts, has aptly demonstrated tremendous character and compassion for the welfare of others, personifying, by virtue of his actions, the collective concern of ordinary citizens across the communities of New York State which voluntarily respond, without the thought of danger or reward, when others are in need of help; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Officer Daniel Balloni upon the occasion of his designation as recipient the Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate; and be it further

RESOLED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to City of Oswego Police Officer Daniel Balloni.