Assembly Resolution No. 784

BY: M. of A. Cook

HONORING Thomas Joy upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Lincoln-King Visionary Award for his commitment and service to his community

WHEREAS, Individuals who give of their time and energies and serve the best interests of their communities are an asset beyond remuneration and cannot be sufficiently extolled; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Joy has given not only of his time and energies but also of his competence, intelligence, and leadership, and consequently has been designated for special honor; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Thomas Joy upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Lincoln-King Visionary Award for his commitment and service to his community, to be celebrated at the Lincoln-King Visionary Awards Gala, "From Dream to Greatness," on Saturday, February 10, 2024, at the Sand Castle in Franklin Square, New York; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious community gala is held annually to unite the international community and to celebrate unity in diversity while recognizing community leaders for their services; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Joy was born and raised in Kerala, India, and immigrated to the United States in 1996; he attended high school in Orangeburg, New York, and enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1997, where he has since served an impressive 27 years in active duty and the reserves; and

WHEREAS, In June of 2007, Thomas Joy completed the Westchester County Police Academy and served as a police officer in the City of Mount Vernon Police Department until 2010; Officer Thomas Joy attended the Suffolk County Police Academy in June of 2010; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Joy received his bachelor's degree from Mercy College in 2007; and

WHEREAS, Following his graduation from the Suffolk County Police Academy, Thomas Joy served as a police officer with the Suffolk County Police Department, 1st Precinct, in Babylon, New York; he served the Suffolk County Police Highway Patrol Bureau as a Highway Patrol Officer from 2013 to 2018; Thomas Joy currently serves in the Community Relations Bureau as a Recruitment Officer; and

WHEREAS, Determined to always continue learning, Officer Thomas Joy has completed the Police Supervision course, Police Motorcycle Operator course, Breath Analysis Operator course, the RADAR/LIDR course, Advanced Roadside Impaired Driver Enforcement (ARIDE), Confidential Informant Management course, Instructor Development course, Crisis Intervention

Team training, and other courses with the police department; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Joy has been called upon to contribute his time and talents to countless civic and charitable endeavors and has always given of himself unstintingly; and

WHEREAS, In 2014, Officer Thomas Joy became the founding member of the Suffolk County Police Asian Jade Society which is a police fraternal nonprofit organization that serves as a bridge between the police department and the Asian American members of the community; the Society encourages Asian Americans to consider a career in law enforcement and the armed forces of the Unites States, while also celebrating Asian languages, culture, heritage, and cuisine; and

WHEREAS, In true dedication to his community, Officer Thomas Joy additionally founded the American Malayalee Law Enforcement United (AMLEU) in 2020 and became its first president; the organization is a national law enforcement charity organization with over 150 members from over 40 agencies; the organization focuses on community outreach, scholarships for college students and other philanthropic efforts; and

WHEREAS, Officer Thomas Joy is also the founding member of the law enforcement fraternal organization Suffolk County Police LGBTQ Society which was created in 2021 as a direct response to community needs and requests; today, the organization serves as an outreach organization to the LGBTQ community of Long Island, aids in recruitment efforts from that community, and assists the community in problem solving and connecting residents of the area to key government and law enforcement leadership; and

WHEREAS, A testament to his character, Thomas Joy was appointed by the Suffolk County Executive to serve as a board member in the Suffolk County Asian American Advisory Board; the board advises the County Executive on legislation, business development, and cultural understanding as it pertains to the Asian American community; and

WHEREAS, Selflessly giving of his time and energy, Thomas Joy served on the U.S. Service Academy Selection Committee of the 3rd Congressional District, New York from 2020 to 2023; in this role, he screened, processed, and mentored candidates who expressed an interest in attending one of the five U.S. military academies; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of his community service, a period of constructive involvement, Thomas Joy has stood constant in dignity, good grace, and humor; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Thomas Joy has displayed throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, It has always been the objective of this Legislative Body to honor and support those individuals who have displayed their commitment to the betterment of their communities, and it is the intent of this Legislative Body to inscribe upon its records, this tribute to Thomas Joy, that future generations may know and appreciate his

admirable character, his many benevolent deeds, and the respect and esteem in which he is held by his peers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Thomas Joy upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Lincoln-King Visionary Award for his commitment and service to his community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Thomas Joy.