

## 2009-J150

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Scott Caruthers upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by New York Families for Autistic Children on February 26, 2009

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to take note of and publicly acknowledge individuals who have distinguished themselves through their exemplary careers, accomplishments, and purposeful lives of service to their community; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Scott Caruthers upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by New York Families for Autistic Children at its Dinner/Dance to be held on Thursday, February 26, 2009; and

WHEREAS, A man of singular distinction, Scott Caruthers 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, Born and raised in New York City, Scott Caruthers joined the United States Navy right after high school, and served aboard the USS Blue Ridge in the first Gulf War; after 10 years of honorable service, he returned as a highly decorated Service Disabled Veteran; and

WHEREAS, On September 11, 2001, Scott Caruthers found himself responding to the attacks on the World Trade Center in his capacity with Regional EMS and as an Ordained Minister of eastern philosophies; he, like so many others, worked in the smoke and confusion at a triage site just six blocks north of Ground Zero tending to the minor wounds and needs of victims and responders, he himself running from the collapse of 7 World Trade; and

WHEREAS, Very soon after this experience, October 4, 2001, Scott Caruthers created Training For Life, Inc., ([www.training4life.org](http://www.training4life.org)), a

Not-for-Profit (501c3) Training Center dedicated to: "Empowering Individuals & Communities through Education & Training in order to Increase the Quantity & Quality of Life"; and

WHEREAS, This includes the ability to deal effectively with the emergencies we must all face in the natural course of our lives; training in CPR, Basic First Aid, and use of the Automated External Defibrillator is all part of the program; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Scott Caruthers trained and operated the first Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) created in New York City, as a result of the attacks from 2002 to 2005; he was also elected to the Federal Citizen Corps Council as the first CERT liaison to New York City's Office of Emergency Management (OEM) in 2004; and

WHEREAS, Also in 2004, Scott Caruthers traveled to Aruba, where he met with the Ministry of Health to discuss the Island's efforts with regard to emergency medical care; by the close of 2008, Training For Life had trained every nurse, EMT, paramedic, fireman, and school teacher on the Island and conducted three Annual CPR Day events training hundreds of average citizens; it has also facilitated the establishment of a Heart Association Training Center with more than 30 instructors capable of maintaining the credentials of its medical providers and also to conduct outreach into a previously untrained population; and

WHEREAS, In 2005, Scott Caruthers was recognized by the New York City Council for his work with the CERT program and the American Heart Association; through his efforts he has distinguished himself by empowering individuals, communities, and New York City as a whole; and

WHEREAS, Today, Training For Life has a growing national presence with affiliates in California, New York, South Carolina, and sites developing in Florida and Illinois; it is responsible for the placement of AEDs in

underserved communities in Africa and South America and training of more than 25,000 people; from those trained there is knowledge of at least three people who have been saved and were able to go home to their fami-

lies; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of his service, a period of constructive involvement, Scott Caruthers 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 Scott Caruthers has displayed throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of the great State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Scott Caruthers upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by New York Families for Autistic Children; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Scott Caruthers.