

## 2009-J5115

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Shepard Smith upon the occasion of receiving the Excellence in Media Award from the National Police Defense Foundation on May 13, 2010

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize those individuals of preeminent character whose lives exemplify the highest ideals of humanity and whose lifework and civic endeavor serve to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Shepard Smith upon the occasion of receiving the Excellence in Media Award from the National Police Defense Foundation at its Annual Awards Dinner to be held on Thursday, May 13, 2010, at Russo's on the Bay, Howard Beach, New York; and

WHEREAS, A man of singular distinction, Shepard Smith has continually demonstrated extreme competence, extraordinary intelligence and diligent leadership in his unwavering service to his community and profession and consequently has been designated for this most prestigious award; and

WHEREAS, Enter the "G-Block" and go "Around the World in 80 Seconds" with Shepard Smith, whose fast-paced anchoring is a glimpse into the future of television news; his highly relatable reporting has been a trademark on FOX News Channel (FNC) since he joined the network at its inception in 1996; currently, he anchors FNC's signature evening newscast, "The Fox Report", which ranks in the top five programs in cable news and has been number one in the 7 PM timeslot for 100 consecutive months; and

WHEREAS, Shepard Smith also hosts an afternoon fast-paced news/interview program, "Studio B with Shepard Smith"; both of his

programs are geared towards utilizing Smith's pull-no-punches attitude to cover the stories of the day; and

WHEREAS, Recently, Shepard Smith reported on the breaking news of the shooting at Fort Hood and conducted an exclusive interview with the alleged shooter's co-worker, Col. Terry Lee; during the 2008 political season, Smith reported from various locations including the Democratic National Convention and the Republican National Convention; and

WHEREAS, Recognized as America's second most trusted news anchor in a TV GUIDE poll, Shepard Smith has covered virtually every major news story over the course of his career, including the conflict in the Middle East from the Israel-Lebanon border, the funeral of Pope John Paul II, Operation Iraqi Freedom, the Columbia Shuttle disaster, the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon and the subsequent war in Afghanistan, and the Columbine shootings; he also provided extensive coverage of Hurricane Katrina from the French Quarter and reported on recovery efforts from Mississippi and later, the one-year anniversary of the storm; and

WHEREAS, Shepard Smith began his stint at FNC as a New York based general assignment reporter and was later promoted to senior correspondent where he reported on numerous breaking news stories, including the Jonesboro, Arkansas and Paducah, Kentucky school shootings; the 1997 standoff between the United Nations and Iraq, Princess Diana's funeral, the murder of Gianni Versace, and the O.J. Simpson civil trial; and

WHEREAS, Before joining FNC, Shepard Smith was a Los Angeles based "FOX News Edge" correspondent where he covered a wide range of stories for the FOX affiliate news service, including the crash of TWA Flight 800, the Montana Freeman Standoff, the 1996 Presidential campaign, and the Oklahoma City bombing; prior to his stint at "Fox News Edge" he

served as a news reporter for the Twentieth Television syndicated program "A Current Affair"; and

WHEREAS, Beginning his career as a reporter for WJHG (NBC) in Panama

City, Shepard Smith went on to report for WBBH (NBC) in Fort Myers and WCPX (CBS) in Orlando; his last assignment in Florida was at WSVN (FOX) in Miami before he headed to Los Angeles to join "Fox News Edge"; he attended the University of Mississippi and is a native of Holly Springs, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, Shepard Smith has, throughout his career and purposeful life, served his community with integrity and devotion, continuously striving to meet the needs of his audience through honesty and enlightenment; and WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence 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 honor Shepard Smith upon the occasion of receiving the President's Award from the National Police Defense Foundation on May 13, 2010; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Shepard Smith.