

2011-J1127

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Michael T. Cornacchia, Esq. upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Man of the Year Award by the National Police Defense Foundation on May 5, 2011

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 Michael T. Cornacchia, Esq. upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Man of The Year Award by the National Police Defense Foundation to be celebrated at its 2011 Annual Awards Dinner on Thursday, May 5, 2011, at Russo's on the Bay in Howard Beach, New York; and

WHEREAS, A man of singular distinction, Michael T. Cornacchia 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, Michael T. Cornacchia is a graduate of the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service and the Fordham University School of Law; and

WHEREAS, Michael T. Cornacchia concentrates his Manhattan-based law practice in criminal defense in federal and state courts within the Tri-state area, as well as throughout the Nation; and

WHEREAS, Michael T. Cornacchia began his legal career as an Assistant District Attorney for Suffolk County, New York, serving in the Major Offense Bureau and Special Investigations Unit where he investigated and

tried homicide and public corruption cases; and

WHEREAS, Michael T. Cornacchia proudly serves as a counsel to the National Police Defense Foundation, providing legal services on a voluntary basis, to men and women in law enforcement and their families; and
WHEREAS, For 23 of his 35 years as an attorney, Michael T. Cornacchia served the public as a prosecutor; most recently, he was the Chief Investigative Counsel for the commission when investigating the Oil-For-Food Program which permitted Saddam Hussein to sell Iraq's oil, under United Nations supervision, in order to purchase food and humanitarian goods; and

WHEREAS, Operating from offices in Baghdad, Manhattan and Paris, Michael T. Cornacchia's 100-person staff secured evidence of bribery and kickbacks secretly received by Hussein to arm insurgents; and

WHEREAS, Michael T. Cornacchia served as an Assistant United States Attorney for the Eastern District of New York, first as a Deputy Chief of the Criminal Division, and, thereafter, as the Senior Litigation Counsel for the Business and Securities Fraud Section; and

WHEREAS, Michael T. Cornacchia has dedicated his life to practicing law for the people, for the community and for his country; he has shown exemplary dedication to protecting the people with his brilliance and expertise in the justice system; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the occurrence of such a compassionate blending of strength, intellect and commitment as that demonstrated by Michael T. Cornacchia over a lifetime of sacrifice and dedication to others; 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 Michael T. Cornacchia, Esq. upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Man of the Year Award by the National Police Defense Foundation on May 5, 2011; and be it further
RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Michael T. Cornacchia.