

2011-J3305

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Police Officer Anthony V. Digiovanna upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition and his ceaseless dedication to the safety of the residents of the Bronx

WHEREAS, A great State is only as great as those individuals who perform exemplary service on behalf of their community, whether through unique achievement in professional or other endeavors, or simply through a lifetime of good citizenship; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to honor Police Officer Anthony V. Digiovanna for his exemplary service to his community of the Bronx and the State of New York; and in recognition of his dedication to the safety of Bronx residents and its visitors by enforcing the law, protecting property and reducing civil disorder; and

WHEREAS, Police Officer Anthony V. Digiovanna was sworn into the New York City Police Department on February 28, 1994, and began his career as a full time officer with the 48th Precinct in the Bronx; during that time, he familiarized himself with the streets of the Bronx by walking every block of his Precinct, learning about the community he was representing and protecting; and

WHEREAS, In 1997, Police Officer Anthony V. Digiovanna, along with his partner, John Muskus, was assigned to monitor the condition of prostitution in the West Farms area of the Bronx; together, they made approximately 400 arrests, bringing such a noted improvement to the quality of life to the West Farm community, that they were recognized and awarded plaques of honor; and

WHEREAS, During the years from July of 2000 until September of 2004, Police Officer Anthony V. Digiovanna was assigned to the Community Policing Unit; through his faithful work ethic and dedication, he further bonded with his community, consistently attending community events while addressing the important concerns of the residents of the Bronx community; and

WHEREAS, On September 11, 2001, Police Officer Anthony V. Digiovanna volunteered to be one of the first responders to the World Trade Center site, spending the first 20 hours of the attack at Ground Zero, and then

spending the next four months participating in recovery efforts; unfortunately, like many others who served at Ground Zero, Police Officer Digiovanna was diagnosed with respiratory difficulties and a rare form of cancer in 2002; and

WHEREAS, Police Officer Anthony V. Digiovanna fought for his life, undergoing aggressive chemotherapy and a stem cell transplant, and was very happy to be able to return to the 48th Precinct of the Bronx and continue to serve the people of his city; and

WHEREAS, His superiors recognized Officer Digiovanna's strong bond with the community and realized he would be a natural for the position of Community Affairs Officer; and

WHEREAS, Subsequently, Police Officer Anthony V. Digiovanna was assigned to the esteemed position of Community Affairs Officer for the 48th Precinct in September 2004; and

WHEREAS, Police Officer Anthony V. Digiovanna referred to the Bronx community and its leaders as his "second family"; it was fitting that whenever his community needed help, he was there to assist them; whether on or off duty, he could be reached any time, responding promptly and efficiently and ready to execute the duties of his position; and

WHEREAS, Police Officer Anthony V. Digiovanna was seen as a liaison and communicator between the Police Department and the people of the Bronx; he was and will continue to be honored with awards, special

recognition and citations for his hard work and dedication to the Bronx; and

WHEREAS, It is the practice of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the quality of life in their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to the maintenance of high standards in their profession, 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 Police Officer Anthony V. Digiovanna upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition and his ceaseless dedication to the safety of the residents of the Bronx; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Police Officer Anthony V. Digiovanna.