

2011-K1319

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring all heroic responders involved in two recent incidences on the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge in recognition of their prompt and heroic actions

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend the caring concern and heroic acts of individuals who take prompt and appropriate action in emergency situations, remaining calm under pressure, in an effort to come to the aid of another; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor all the heroic responders involved in the two recent incidences on the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge in recognition of their prompt and heroic actions; and

WHEREAS, In the first incident, after a good Samaritan who was going through the toll booth of the Verrazano Bridge stopped to tell police officers an empty car was parked mid-span, four MTA Bridges and Tunnels officers and a maintenance worker rushed to the aid of a Staten Island man who was hanging on the side of the bridge by one arm; and

WHEREAS, The team of rescuers were TBTA Officers Jared Reeves and Joseph Dahl, Lieutenant Cheryl DeSetto, Sergeant Michael Chiarelli, and maintenance worker Giuseppe Bonamico; and

WHEREAS, As a result of the courageous, skilled and timely actions of these heroic responders, the Staten Island man was saved from a death plunge; and

WHEREAS, In the second incident, Bridges and Tunnels Officer Edward Grimm saved the life of a man who recently attempted to jump from the lower level of the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge; and

WHEREAS, Edward Grimm was on routine highway patrol the night of April 4, 2012, when he spotted a car driving slowly and impeding traffic on the lower level of the bridge, heading into Brooklyn; thinking the driver might be having car trouble, he pulled up behind him and put on his emergency lights; and

WHEREAS, The man driving the car suddenly threw it into park without fully stopping and jumped out, acting erratically, waving his arms and

muttering to himself; and

WHEREAS, Edward Grimm immediately radioed for assistance; at the same time an NYPD Emergency Services truck was crossing the bridge and stopped to help; the man suddenly bolted to the side of the bridge and attempted to climb over; acting together, the three officers subdued the man; and

WHEREAS, These three heroic responders showed outstanding courage and determination in the face of tragedy; their astute actions successfully brought the man to safety; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to individuals within the State of New York who perform rescue operations with diligence and precision, resulting in heroic life-saving actions; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor all heroic responders involved in two recent incidences on the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge in recognition of their prompt and heroic actions; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the heroic responders.