

## 2013-J448

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Utica Fire Chief Russell Brooks upon the occasion of being named Grand Marshal of the 2013 Utica St. Patrick's Day Parade, to be held on March 9, 2013

WHEREAS, Saint Patrick's Day is a time for people of all nationalities and generations to assemble and celebrate the rich culture and heritage of the Irish people throughout these United States; and

WHEREAS, A Saint Patrick's Day parade reflects and records the ongoing history of the United States and Ireland, and highlights the many contributions and historical accomplishments of the Irish community in this diverse land; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Utica Fire Chief Russell Brooks upon the occasion of being named Grand Marshal of the 2013 Utica St. Patrick's Day Parade to be held on March 9, 2013; and

WHEREAS, Fire Chief Russell Brooks was selected as this year's Grand Marshal at the Annual Halfway to the Great American Irish Festival Hooley at Hart's Inn in Whitesboro, New York on Sunday, January 27, 2013; and

WHEREAS, A 37 year member of the Utica Fire Department, Chief Russell Brooks was chosen for this most auspicious honor in recognition of his many years of community service including his efforts at Ground Zero after 9/11, and numerous life-saving rescues; and

WHEREAS, Of proud Irish descent, both of Chief Russell Brooks' grandparents were from Ireland; and

WHEREAS, St. Patrick's Day is not, as many believe, a celebration of the Patron Saint of Ireland's birth but of his death; and

WHEREAS, The St. Patrick's Day Parade celebrates the spirit, purity and strength of the Irish Culture and its fine traditions; 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 Utica Fire Chief Russell Brooks upon the occasion of being named

Grand Marshal of the 2013 Utica St. Patrick's Day Parade, to be held on March 9, 2013; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Utica Fire Chief Russell Brooks.