

## 2015-J679

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Firefighter James Duncan upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 50 years of dedicated service to the Flower Hill Hose Company No. 1 and the Port Washington Fire Department

WHEREAS, The firefighters of New York State are renowned throughout the Nation; their reputation is synonymous with excellence in the arduous field of fire protection and prevention; and

WHEREAS, Since the early days of "teapot steamers," the volunteer firefighter has been the cornerstone of our great Nation's efforts to spare us from the ravages of fire; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proud to commend Firefighter James Duncan upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 50 years of dedicated service to the Flower Hill Hose Company No. 1 and the Port Washington Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, James Duncan first became a firefighter in 1963, after membership was proposed by his father, Ex-Chief and 64 year veteran, John Duncan; and

WHEREAS, As a devoted member of the Port Washington Fire Department, James Duncan has served as Chief Engineer, Second Lieutenant, First Lieutenant, and the top rank of Captain of the Company; and

WHEREAS, The quintessential public servant, this esteemed man is the longest serving President in the history of the Flower Hill Hose Company No. 1; he also sits on both the Flower Hill Hose Company Board of Directors and the Port Washington Fire Department Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, From 1966 to 1969, James Duncan served his country as a member of the United States Army Corps of Engineers; he was stationed in Vietnam for 13 months as a combat engineer commander and a demolition expert, earning numerous commendations, including a Purple Heart and

Bronze Star; and

WHEREAS, Following the completion of his military service, James Duncan continued to serve the public as a Nassau County Police Officer for 23 years; he became Commissioner of the Port Washington Police Department in 1996, where he continues to serve today; and

WHEREAS, James Duncan is also the founder, owner, and operator of Chief Fire & Safety Equipment and Chief Fire & Rescue Apparatus Sales, a business he started 44 years ago; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife of 44 years, Elaine, and their children, Allison, Michele, and John, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Volunteer firefighters and fire departments not only provide the critical service of fire protection but also engage in other activities of great benefit and importance to the communities they serve; and

WHEREAS, It takes a special dedication, a strong desire to help others and a tireless sense of community to forsake precious time with family and friends to respond to the signal that a neighbor is in need; James Duncan is such a firefighter; throughout 50 years of devoted service, this volunteer heroically performed, above and beyond the call of duty, those responsibilities which define the task of fire protection; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Firefighter James Duncan upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 50 years of dedicated service to the Flower Hill Hose Company No. 1 and the Port Washington Fire Department; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Firefighter James Duncan.