

2015-J912

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of The Honorable Paul Volcy, renowned public servant, distinguished citizen, and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to mourn publicly the death of certain prominent individuals whose valued contributions to their community, their profession, and their heritage served to enhance the quality of life in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Paul Volcy, a former City Court judge and decorated Vietnam veteran, died on Monday, February 23, 2015, at the age of 67; and

WHEREAS, Born August 15, 1947, in the South Bronx and raised in Puerto Rico, his mother's homeland, Paul Volcy grew up with a hunger for adventure and joined the United States Army in 1966; he was a First Lieutenant when he began a tour in Vietnam in 1969, but was soon promoted to Captain; and

WHEREAS, Paul Volcy's bilingual ability and training in the Vietnamese language helped him function as a troubleshooter for his colonel in Saigon, and when supplies diminished, he had a unique ability to fill up shortages; at the end of his tour, which also included field duty in the jungles, he was awarded a Bronze Star; and

WHEREAS, Upon his military discharge in 1971, Paul Volcy earned his bachelor's degree at the University of Puerto Rico before earning his law degree from the University at Buffalo; and

WHEREAS, After starting in private practice, Paul Volcy became an attorney in the office of Buffalo's corporation counsel where he spent five years working primarily on civil rights cases; and

WHEREAS, Paul Volcy was appointed as a City Court Judge by the Mayor in 2001; he went on to work for the Attorney General's office, during which time he worked in the Court of Claims, specializing in defending

against medical malpractice and in personal injury cases; he retired from this esteemed position in 2011; and

WHEREAS, A true leader in the Buffalo community, Paul Volcy was a founding member of Western New York Hispanics & Friends Civic Association and was actively involved in other Latino organizations; in addition, he was a past president of University at Buffalo Law School's Latin American Law Students Association; and

WHEREAS, With an unwavering commitment to creating change within his community, Paul Volcy devoted his time and energy to HOPE, an organization which encourages Hispanic students to progress in school; and

WHEREAS, Paul Volcy was sincerely loved and greatly respected by all those with whom he worked; committed to his community, the people he represented, his State, and his Nation, he served his public with dignity, dedication and incisive wisdom; and

WHEREAS, Over a long and meritorious life of service on behalf of others, Paul Volcy was a man of action, of integrity, and of commitment, whose true compassion was generously given to all who knew him; and

WHEREAS, Paul Volcy is survived by his wife of 32 years, Susan; three children, Michelle (Christopher), Paul (Nicole) and Suzanne (Michael); two brothers, Yves (Marie) and Charles (Wendy); one sister, Carole (Edna); and two granddaughters, Isabella and Olivia; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit, imbued with a sense of compassion, and comforted by a loving family, Paul Volcy leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all he served and befriended; now, therefore, be it RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of The Honorable Paul Volcy, renowned public servant,

distinguished citizen, and devoted member of his community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of The Honorable Paul Volcy.