

2015-J1141

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending the Five Towns Kiwanis Club upon the occasion of hosting a celebration to honor the life of the late 1st Deputy Chief Joseph Sanford, Jr.

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to convey its grateful appreciation and heartfelt regret in recognition of the loss of a courageous firefighter who dedicated his purposeful life and career in faithful service to his family, community and the State of New York; and WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend the Five Towns Kiwanis Club upon the occasion of hosting a celebration to honor the life of the late 1st Deputy Chief Joseph Sanford, Jr. of the Inwood Fire Department, at the George Martin's Restaurant, Rockville Centre, New York, on Thursday, March 19, 2015; and

WHEREAS, On Friday, December 19, 2014, 1st Deputy Chief Joseph Sanford, Jr. and his fellow firefighters responded to a blaze at a vacant house, which was undergoing renovations, in Woodmere, Long Island; and

WHEREAS, 1st Deputy Chief Joseph Sanford, Jr. suffered cardiac arrest after the first floor of the house collapsed, causing him to fall to the basement; he was revived by firefighters and taken to North Shore University Hospital in Manhasset, New York, where he succumbed to his injuries and died four days later; and

WHEREAS, A 17-year veteran of the Inwood Fire Department, Joseph Sanford, Jr. was the department's first African-American 1st Deputy Chief; after serving the required five-year probation period, he rose through the ranks, holding the esteemed positions of Lieutenant, Captain, and then 1st Deputy Chief; and

WHEREAS, 1st Deputy Chief Joseph Sanford, Jr. is survived by his cherished wife, Jackie, and his loving daughter, Janisha; and

WHEREAS, 1st Deputy Chief Joseph Sanford, Jr. lived his life with great dignity and genuine grace, always demonstrating a deep and continuing concern for the welfare of others in his Long Island community; and WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, 1st Deputy Chief Joseph Sanford, Jr. 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; he will be deeply missed and truly merits the grateful tribute of this Legislative Body; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Five Towns Kiwanis Club upon the occasion of hosting a celebration to honor the life of the late 1st Deputy Chief Joseph Sanford, Jr., noting the significance of his contributions on behalf of the citizens of this noble Empire State; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Five Towns Kiwanis Club and to the family of 1st Deputy Chief Joseph Sanford, Jr.