

2015-J1430

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending NYPD Police Officer Steven C. Stefanakos in recognition of his heroic actions in helping to rescue a distraught woman on the Kosciuszko Bridge

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize the caring concern and heroic acts of individuals who take prompt and appropriate action in emergency situations; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Steven C. Stefanakos in recognition of his heroic actions in helping a distraught woman on the Kosciuszko Bridge; and

WHEREAS, Officer Steven Stefanakos has proudly served the New York City Police Department for the past 24 years; he has contributed 20 of those years to the Emergency Service Unit where he currently teaches officers how to interact with emotionally disturbed persons in crisis; and

WHEREAS, On April 6, 2015, Officer Steven Stefanakos responded with Emergency Service Unit Truck 10 to a 911 call of a suicidal woman on the Kosciuszko Bridge; he rushed to the woman's location and found the distraught woman standing precariously on the outside of a bridge railing; and

WHEREAS, Using empathy and de-escalation techniques learned in his training, Officer Steven Stefanakos carefully worked to build a rapport with the distraught woman, convinced her to come off the ledge, and subsequently pulled her to safety; and

WHEREAS, Officer Steven Stefanakos should be meritoriously commended for remaining calm under pressure and for showing valor and true courage while performing a lifesaving deed; and

WHEREAS, Through his heroic actions, Officer Steven Stefanakos demon-

strated his character and his compassion for the welfare of others, personifying, by virtue of his actions, the collective concern of police officers across the community of New York State who respond without the thought of danger or reward when others are in need of help; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Officer Steven Stefanakos in recognition of his heroic actions in helping to rescue a distraught woman on the Kosciuszko Bridge; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to NYPD Police Officer Steven Stefanakos.