

NEW YORK STATE SENATOR John A. DeFrancisco

Senator DeFrancisco Recognizes Heroic Silver Star Medal Recipient, Chief Petty Officer Jeremy Torrisi, With A Legislative Resolution

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Chief Petty Officer Jeremy K. Torrisi Bravely Saved Four Lives in a Firefight

Senator John A. DeFrancisco (R-I-C, Syracuse) today recognized Chief Petty Officer Jeremy K. Torrisi at the Syracuse City Hall Common Council Chambers with a State of New York Legislative Resolution upon the occasion of receiving the Silver Star Medal for his heroic actions while performing military service in Afghanistan.

"I am especially proud to honor Chief Petty Officer Torrisi, who grew up in the 50th Senate District, and whose parents still reside here," said Senator DeFrancisco. "He should be commended for his patriotism, dedication and strong commitment to our Nation."

Torrisi received a Silver Star Medal for his actions in a firefight. He headed toward the firefight to provide support to his team despite being given a do not enter order because of the danger. He jumped out of his vehicle and ran 50 meters through enemy fire to administer care to soldiers in the rear vehicle.

He then ran 50 to 75 meters to the forward vehicle team to do the same. Torrisi was unable to administer care due to sniper gunfire, so he launched grenade rounds from an M-203 grenade launcher, and the assailing gunfire stopped; this brave soldier was then able to administer aid to the wounded team members of the forward vehicle.

He continued to administer aid to wounded members even after he had been shot in the leg, until all of the other wounded team members had been assisted, and then he aided in the evacuation of the wounded team members to safer locations.

Torrisi's actions saved the lives of four people, and for his brave actions, he was awarded the Silver Star Medal, the third highest award given for valor in the face of the enemy, on January 21, 2010, at the Camp Lejeune Marine Corps Base in North Carolina.

"Answering the call to serve in this dangerous time in such an incredibly heroic way is truly an inspiration to all of us. He has made the world a safer place, not only for those whose lives he saved, but also for each and every freedom-loving American citizen," said Senator DeFrancisco.