

2015-J4442

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Richard J. Cea, Esq. upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2016 Monsignor Thomas G. Hagerty Humanitarian Award by HeartShare Human Services of New York

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to acknowledge outstanding individuals whose professional lives, personal endeavors, and community service are an example and inspiration to their colleagues, friends, and family; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Richard J. Cea, Esq. upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2016 Monsignor Thomas G. Hagerty Humanitarian Award by HeartShare Human Services of New York to be celebrated at its Spring Gala and Auction on Wednesday, March 23, 2016, at the New York Marriott Marquis in New York City; and

WHEREAS, The mission of HeartShare Human Services of New York is to nurture and support, with dignity and respect, children, adults, and families in order to expand opportunities and enhance lives; and

WHEREAS, Richard J. Cea is receiving this auspicious award for his devotion to his profession and sincere dedication and substantial role as a community leader; he has continuously cast a positive impact on his community and displayed an unbridled enthusiasm in all his professional and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, After graduating from the University of Notre Dame in 1974, Richard J. Cea received his law degree from Fordham University School of Law in 1977; and

WHEREAS, Richard J. Cea furthered his education by obtaining his Labor Relations Studies Certificate from The New York State School of Industrial and Labor Relations at Cornell University in 1995, as well as his

Estate and Gift Tax Planning Certificate from the New York University School of Continuing and Professional Studies in 2004; and

WHEREAS, Richard J. Cea was admitted to practice before the Courts of New York State in 1978; the United States District Court, Southern District of New York in 1979; United States District Court, Eastern District of New York in 1982; United States Court of Appeals, Second Circuit in 1999; and the United States Supreme Court in 1984; and WHEREAS, In 1975, Richard J. Cea began his illustrious career with HeartShare Human Services, then known as Catholic Guardian Society of Brooklyn and Queens, holding the position of Administrative Assistant in its Adoption Unit; and

WHEREAS, Three years later, he held the esteemed title of General Counsel to HeartShare; in June of 1978, he left to join his current firm, then known as Hurley, Kearney & Lane, as an Associate Attorney; and

WHEREAS, In August of 1980, Richard J. Cea became a partner in Hurley, Kearney & Lane and, in 1996, the firm merged with Wingate & Cullen to form Wingate, Kearney and Cullen, LLP; the overwhelming majority of his practice involves a lifelong representation of religious, charitable and educational entities; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Richard J. Cea serves as the attorney to the Bishop of the Diocese of Brooklyn and for many religious organizations, as well as being counsel to the HeartShare family; and

WHEREAS, Established in 1864, Wingate, Kearney & Cullen has represented the Brooklyn Diocese for over 100 years, and former Brooklyn institutions and icons, such as the Brooklyn Dodgers, Charles Ebbetts, Helen Keller, the Brooklyn Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children and Kings County Buick; and

WHEREAS, Richard J. Cea is a vital member of several organizations including the New York State Bar Association, National Catholic Cemetery Conference, New York State Cemetery Association and The Catholic Lawyers

Guild, Kings County Chapter, where he served as President in 1990; and WHEREAS, Furthermore, Richard J. Cea has participated on the Board of Directors of the Society of St. Vincent De Paul of the Diocese of Brooklyn, the Belle Harbor Property Owners Association, Inc. and Trans Video Communications, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his two children, Christine and Richard Scott (Nicole), both of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, It the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Richard J. Cea, Esq. upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2016 Monsignor Thomas G. Hagerty Humanitarian Award by HeartShare Human Services of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Richard J. Cea, Esq.