

## 2015-J4496

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Charles Karen posthumously upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Firefighter of the Year Award by the American Legion Post No. 304

WHEREAS, Citizens across our State and Nation are inspired by and indebted to our valiant firefighters who exhibit courage and bravery every day in the course of their duties; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend the caring concern and heroic acts of individuals who take prompt and appropriate action in emergency situations, nobly risking their own lives in an effort to preserve the life of another; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Charles Karen posthumously upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Firefighter of the Year Award by the American Legion Post No. 304; this momentous occasion was celebrated at its Annual Awards Night on Wednesday, March 2, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Charles Karen will receive this auspicious award in recognition of his steadfast and unwavering dedication to his community; and

WHEREAS, Charles Karen, affectionately known as Chuck, joined Manhasset-Lakeville Fire Department Company No. 2 on August 2, 1991; in addition, he valiantly served as a Police Officer with the New York Police Department (NYPD); and

WHEREAS, During his illustrious tenure, Charles Karen worked tirelessly to provide life-saving service to his community, and selflessly gave of his time and energies during the aftermath of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001; and

WHEREAS, The prompt and noble actions of Charles Karen are a tremendous inspiration to his fellow firefighters and officers, and the State of New York is proud to recognize his exemplary service; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Firefighter Charles Karen displayed throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout was his wife, Tina, and their children, Charles and Dominic, all of whom feel privileged to have been a part of his life; and

WHEREAS, It takes a special dedication, a strong desire to help others and a tireless sense of community to forsake precious time with family and friends to respond to the signal that a neighbor is in need; Charles Karen was one such firefighter; throughout his many years of devoted service, this volunteer heroically performed, above and beyond the call of duty, those responsibilities which define the task of fire protection in the great State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Charles Karen posthumously upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Firefighter of the Year Award by the American Legion Post No. 304; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Charles Karen.