

2015-J5594

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Ex-Captain Charles D. Cella upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 50 years of distinguished service to the Atlantic Hook and Ladder Company No. 1 on June 11, 2016

WHEREAS, The firefighters of New York State are renowned throughout the Nation; their reputation is synonymous with excellence in the arduous field of fire protection and prevention; and

WHEREAS, Since the early days of "teapot steamers," the volunteer firefighter has been the cornerstone of our great Nation's efforts to spare us from the ravages of fire; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proud to commend Ex-Captain Charles D. Cella upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 50 years of distinguished service to the Atlantic Hook and Ladder Company No. 1, to be celebrated at its 130th Annual Installation Dinner on Saturday, June 11, 2016, at the Manhasset Bay Yacht Club in Port Washington, New York; and

WHEREAS, Volunteer firefighters and fire departments not only provide the critical service of fire protection but also engage in other activities of great benefit and importance to the communities they serve; and

WHEREAS, Firefighter Charles D. Cella, a lifelong resident of Port Washington, was elected to membership in the Atlantic Hook and Ladder Company No. 1 on June 2, 1966; throughout his tenure, he held several offices in the Company including Engineer and First and Second Lieutenant; he worked his way up through the ranks and served in the esteemed position of Captain in 1978 and 1979; and

WHEREAS, For an unprecedented 36 years, Firefighter Charles D. Cella also served as a Trustee of the Atlantic Hook and Ladder Company No. 1; and

WHEREAS, Following his graduation from Paul D. Schreiber High School in 1958, Firefighter Charles D. Cella proudly served his country as a member of the United States Army from 1958 through 1960, earning the rank of Specialist Fourth Class; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Joyce, their three children, and their four grandchildren, all of whom feel privileged to be part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

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, Firefighters exemplify the power of human compassion and the strength of the American spirit through actions of the most heroic magnitude; their sacrifices and their selfless dedication merit tribute and recognition by all citizens of this great country; 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; Firefighter Charles D. Cella is such a firefighter; throughout 50 years of devoted service, this volunteer heroically performed, above and beyond the call of duty, those responsibilities which define the task of fire protection; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Ex-Captain Charles D. Cella upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 50 years of distinguished service to the Atlantic Hook and Ladder Company No. 1; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Ex-Captain Charles D. Cella.