

## 2013-J25

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending outgoing Fire Chief Thomas J. Fernandez, Jr. upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after his dedicated service to the Merrick Fire Department

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 justly proud to commend outgoing Fire Chief Thomas J. Fernandez, Jr. upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after his dedicated service to the Merrick Fire Department to be celebrated at its 89th Annual Inspection and Installation Dinner on Saturday, January 19, 2013, at the Long Island Marriott, Uniondale, 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, A true asset to society, Thomas J. Fernandez, Jr.'s distinguished record merits the recognition and respectful tribute of this Legislative Body; 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; Thomas J. Fernandez, Jr. is such a 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; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend outgoing Fire Chief Thomas J. Fernandez, Jr. upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after many years of dedicated service to the Merrick Fire Department; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be tran-

mitted to outgoing Fire Chief Thomas J. Fernandez, Jr.