

## 2013-J388

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Michael B. Powers, Esq. upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Citizen of the Year Award by the Clarence Chamber of Commerce

WHEREAS, It is the sense 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 Michael B. Powers, Esq. upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Citizen of the Year Award by the Clarence Chamber of Commerce; this auspicious occasion will be celebrated at the Chamber's Annual Awards Dinner, to be held on Thursday, February 28, 2013, at Samuel's Grande Manor; and

WHEREAS, A life long resident of Clarence, New York, Michael B. Powers attended St. Bonaventure University and graduated first in his class from Western New England College School of Law in 1982; he is a member of the law firm, Phillips Lytle; and

WHEREAS, Michael B. Powers has been attorney for over 30 years and a partner at Phillips Lytle since 1988; for several years, he has been listed in the prestigious THE BEST LAWYERS IN AMERICA, AMERICA'S TOP LAWYERS, BEST LAWYERS IN NEW YORK, UPSTATE NEW YORK SUPER LAWYERS list and BUSINESS FIRST'S "Who's Who In The Law"; and

WHEREAS, In 2008, Michael B. Powers became Clarence Town Justice; in that role, he created the Clarence Driving School, the Clarence Community Service Program and the Clarence Drug Court; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Michael B. Powers has created a Clarence Youth Court that will allow young people to help their peers avoid substance abuse and criminal behavior at an earlier point in their lives; and

WHEREAS, Michael B. Powers helped reestablish the Clarence Little League Football program in 1993; he is also a founding member of the Clarence Recreation Advisory Committee and, in that role, helped acquire the land and establish the Clarence Memorial Park; and

WHEREAS, A founding member of the Clarence Greenprint Land Conservation Project, which has acquired and protected 1,315 acres of land in the town that will remain forever green; Michael B. Powers and his law firm, Phillips Lytle, also created the not-for-profit organization "Remember Flight 3407, Inc."; and

WHEREAS, Among his many awards and honors, Michael B. Powers is the recipient of the Clarence Friend of Youth Award in 2011; he has also been honored with St. Bonaventure University's Gaudete Medal, an honor given to a community leader who has inspired others through his personal and professional life; and

WHEREAS, Michael B. Powers has served on the Board of Directors of the Make-A-Wish Foundation, the YMCA of Western New York and the MS Society; he has also received the Leadership Buffalo Values Award for Leadership Impact; the Make-A-Wish Shooting Star Award and Working for Downtown Award for long term commitment to Downtown Buffalo; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of his professional and community service, a period of constructive involvement, Michael B. Powers has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor, and has earned the respect and admiration of his colleagues, family and friends; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Michael B. Powers has displayed throughout his life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Michael B. Powers, Esq. upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Citizen of the Year Award by the Clarence Chamber of Commerce; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Michael B. Powers.