

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT AND HONOR OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF GREENSBORO

WHEREAS, in emergency situations in the City of Greensboro, the City's public safety employees (commonly called "first responders"), carry out the critical role of protecting and ensuring public safety;

WHEREAS, the Greensboro Police Department, Fire Department and the Guilford Metro 911 Department act as a combined team, in conjunction with partners from other agencies, to rescue people from dangerous circumstances, secure dangers, treat the injured and protect the lives and safety of people, regardless of the peril or hazard to themselves;

WHEREAS, Greensboro's first responders often risk their lives when responding to emergencies;

WHEREAS, 911 staff serves as the first, first responder to protect the people of Greensboro and Guilford County every day, being always available to provide a coordinated response to any emergency at any hour, under any conditions or circumstances;

WHEREAS, 911 communicators processed 715,858 total telephone transactions, over 3.5 million radio transmissions during 2014, and dispatched 433,870 calls for service for Law, Fire and EMS.

WHEREAS, fire fighters provide fire suppression, emergency medical services, search and rescue, hazardous materials response, critical fire prevention and safety education;

WHEREAS, in 2014 the Fire Department responded to 33,678 fire and medical emergency calls, provided the public 198,907 contact hours of fire safety training, and conducted 11,401 total fire safety inspections; and maintained accredited class 1 level emergency services for the people of Greensboro;

WHEREAS, police officers protect our families and our property, detect and prevent crimes, restore the peace, uphold the law, ensure justice and make Greensboro a safer community;

WHEREAS, the Police Department in 2014 responded to 291,062 calls for service, reduced crime to the lowest known levels since 1976, and a strong majority of Greensboro's residents have a positive opinion of the Greensboro Police and believe they have been effective in making neighborhoods and the City safe;

WHEREAS, the government of the City of Greensboro is charged first and foremost with assuring public safety by protecting the lives, peace and property of its residents;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREENSBORO:

That the Council declares, for itself and the residents of the City, that the City gratefully and completely supports our first responders;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council encourages all residents of Greensboro to express their gratitude to our first responders with their own acts and expressions of kindness and appreciation for their efforts and sacrifices during other nationally recognized events and by attending and supporting local award ceremonies such as National Telecommunications Week (April), Police Memorial Week (May) Fire Department Award and Medal Ceremony (September) and other events sponsored by local merchants; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, as the September 11th anniversary approaches, Council supports the creation of a Public Safety Appreciation Day event that affirms the goals and efforts of Greensboro and all communities to honor and celebrate the contributions and sacrifices made by our first responders in Greensboro, High Point, Guilford County, and all first responders in the United States.