

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 67

BY SENATORS MIGUEZ AND COUSSAN AND REPRESENTATIVE BEAULLIEU

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Police Officer Raynard Ford on receipt of the prestigious TOP COPS Award®.

WHEREAS, each year since 1994, the National Association of Police (NAPO) has presented the TOP COPS Awards® Ceremony; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the TOP COPS Award® is to educate the American public about our nation's heroes and to pay tribute to law enforcement from across the country for actions above and beyond the call of duty during the preceding year; and

WHEREAS, an independent Awards Selection Committee comprised of national law enforcement representatives select, from hundreds of nominations submitted by fellow officers, one TOP COP case from each of the fifty states of the United States and each of the U.S. territories, and officers from the top ten cases submitted are selected as TOP COPS Awards® Winners; and

WHEREAS, five police officers from the Lafayette Police Department have won the prestigious TOP COPS Award® as a result of their actions to save lives; and

WHEREAS, Police Officer Raynard Ford has worked with the Lafayette Police Department since August 11, 2021, and is currently assigned to the Lafayette Police Department's uniformed patrol division in precinct 4; agile and athletic, Police Officer Ford previously played tight end for the University of Louisiana at Lafayette football team; and

WHEREAS, on August 5, 2023, at approximately 0214 hours, Lafayette Police Department Officers Raynard Ford, Alan Cortez, and Hali Bradford were dispatched to a "Disturbance, In Progress" in the city of Lafayette; and

WHEREAS, upon locating the residence, officers heard a female screaming inside the residence, and despite facing imminent danger, Officers Ford, Cortez, and Bradford courageously initiated action to ensure the safety of the individuals inside the residence; and

WHEREAS, Officer Ford demonstrated exceptional bravery by breaching the door and evacuating two children and a young female, despite being fired upon by an armed suspect, exhibiting selflessness and dedication to the protection of civilians and fellow officers; and

WHEREAS, Officer Cortez displayed unwavering courage by remaining inside the residence, risking his own safety to allow Officer Bradford, who had sustained gunshot wounds, to escape, and continued to fulfill his duty even after sustaining injuries, ensuring the safety of others until additional assistance arrived; and

WHEREAS, Corporals Adam Bradford and Maverick Morvant were working off-duty security and on their way home when they heard the words "shots fired and officer down" over their police radio; upon arrival at the scene, Corporals Bradford and Morvant quickly assessed the situation and sprang into action; and

WHEREAS, Corporal Morvant exhibited exceptional professionalism and quick thinking by swiftly transporting Officer Bradford to the hospital, thereby playing a crucial role in saving her life, demonstrating extraordinary dedication to duty and fellow officers; and

WHEREAS, Corporal Adam Bradford, Officer Hali Bradford's spouse, demonstrated remarkable bravery and resourcefulness by swiftly assessing the situation and transporting Officer Bradford to safety, providing critical medical aid en route to the hospital, and providing invaluable support during a life-threatening situation; and

WHEREAS, the actions of Officers Raynard Ford and Alan Cortez, and Corporals Adam Bradford and Maverick Morvant, exemplify the highest standards of bravery, selflessness, and dedication to duty, and undoubtedly saved the life of Officer Hali Bradford; and

WHEREAS, the extraordinary bravery, quick thinking, and selfless actions in the face of danger of these officers exemplify the highest ideals of law enforcement and their commitment to protecting and serving their community.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Police Officer Raynard Ford on receipt of the prestigious TOP COPS Award®.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Police Officer Raynard Ford.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES