

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 169

BY SENATOR ALARIO

A RESOLUTION

To commend Lieutenant Heather A. Sylve of the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office on being the recipient of the 2016 Deputy Sheriff Valor Award presented by the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association.

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association presents the Deputy Sheriff Valor Award to recognize a deputy sheriff based on that officer's performance above and beyond the call of duty and any extreme life-threatening acts of bravery; and

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2015, Lieutenant Heather A. Sylve, a deputy sheriff and eight-year veteran with the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office, was working an off-duty assignment at the Louis Armstrong International Airport; and

WHEREAS, a sixty-two year old male subject walked onto the Concourse B security checkpoint, produced a can of wasp spray, and sprayed an agent with the Transportation Safety Administration (TSA) and nearby passengers; and

WHEREAS, the assailant then retrieved a machete from his waistband and wielded it at TSA agents and passengers in close proximity; and

WHEREAS, as he was wielding the machete, he fixated on one of the agents as a target and made several attempts to inflict bodily harm to the agent who ran toward Lieutenant Sylve; and

WHEREAS, as the TSA agent neared Lieutenant Sylve, she drew her duty weapon without hesitation and gave verbal commands for the assailant to cease his attack; and

WHEREAS, the assailant ignored her commands, continued his assault, and with the threat being imminent, Lieutenant Sylve discharged her weapon, striking the subject and thereby incapacitating him and ceasing the assault; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Sylve's heroic actions in the performance of her duties terminated the threat and saved the lives of TSA agents and innocent bystanders from imminent danger; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Sylve's exemplary act of bravery is a true testament not only to her character and integrity but also to her chosen profession; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Heather A. Sylve merits the highest commendation and sincere congratulations for her exemplary public service and for her outstanding contributions to the state of Louisiana and its citizens.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Lieutenant Heather A. Sylve on being the recipient of the 2016 Deputy Sheriff Valor Award from the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association; does hereby recognize her bravery in the face of imminent danger, does hereby recognize and record for posterity her tireless dedication and service to the citizens of Jefferson Parish and the state of Louisiana, and does hereby extend to her best wishes for continued success and happiness in all of her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Lieutenant Heather A. Sylve.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE