

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 104

BY SENATOR DORSEY-COLOMB

A RESOLUTION

To commend Sergeant Carolyn R. Stapleton on her retirement and many accomplishments,
with Crime Victims Assistance of the East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office.

WHEREAS, Carolyn R. Stapleton has led a very successful career in assisting crime victims and their families through traumatic times; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Baker High School, she was hired by the East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's office in 2001, graduated from the Louisiana State University Law Enforcement Basic Training Academy in 2002, graduated from the Louisiana State Victim Assistance Academy in 2007, and completed the National Victim Assistance Academy Leadership Institute in 2008, and received her National Advocate Credential as a Comprehensive Victim Intervention Specialist through the National Organization for Victim Assistance; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Stapleton has made a life of helping others not only a career but a hobby and way of life; and

WHEREAS, she has attended court hearings with victims to ensure that their rights were upheld; and

WHEREAS, she would often make hospital visits to comfort families and assist in funeral preparation; and

WHEREAS, her clients knew that they could depend on her to check on them and to help them through their life-changing situations lending any assistance that she possibly could; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure with the East Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office, Sergeant Stapleton has held numerous victim impact panels for the community and mandated prison pre-release programs; and

WHEREAS, since the time of her initial employment with the sheriff's office, she has worked in two capacities, as Crime Victims Assistance Coordinator and Grants and Training Coordinator; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Stapleton has also pursued and successfully encouraged legislation which was authored by Senator Francis Thompson and Senator Bodie White which expanded the Crime Victim Reparations Board to include further assistance to families of incest victims allowing the claimant to receive loss of support, and to make available lost wages to parents of children victims of crime, when the parent had to lose work to take care of the child; and

WHEREAS, she has earned numerous awards for her accomplishments including, the National Sheriff's Association Victim Services Award, and National Community Awareness Award which was presented by the Office of Crime within the Department of Justice; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Stapleton also founded and coordinates both the Evening of Remembrance and Flowers on the Lake for victims of crime in East Baton Rouge Parish, which is hosted annually by the East Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office; and

WHEREAS, the Evening of Remembrance recognizes victims and surviving family members of victims of homicide in a very sentimental ceremony and Flowers on the Lake recognizes all victims and those who have survived any type of crime by placing a flower in the lake on behalf of themselves and their loved ones; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Stapleton has certainly touched the lives of countless people in the state of Louisiana as she has not only been a resource but also a friend to victims and their families during devastating and extremely difficult times in their lives.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Sergeant Carolyn R. Stapleton on her retirement, many accomplishments, and sincerely thanks her for her involvement with Crime Victims Assistance of the East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Sergeant Carolyn R. Stapleton.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE