**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE MAJOR GEORGE BOOTH, OF LEXINGTON COUNTY, SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE OF THE TACTICAL OPERATIONS UNIT OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT, TO COMMEND HIM FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE, AND TO WISH HIM MUCH HAPPINESS AND FULFILLMENT IN ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, it is with great pleasure that the South Carolina General Assembly honors those individuals who give tirelessly of themselves to the welfare of this great State’s citizenry; and

Whereas, Major George Booth, of Lexington County, retiring special agent in charge of the Tactical Operations Unit of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, stands among their number as an outstanding public servant; and

Whereas, a thirty‑year veteran of law enforcement and a graduate of the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy and the Southern Police Institute, Major Booth is a former sheriff of Saluda County, having served six years in that position. In recognition of his excellence in service, he was named 1984 Saluda County Officer of the Year, and in 1985, the South Carolina Sheriff of the Year; and

Whereas, after joining the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) in 1986, he was assigned to the Criminal Investigations Unit. In 1987, he was also assigned to the SLED SWAT Team, where he served on the Containment Team, Sniper Team, and Entry Team. In 1988, he was named Entry Team supervisor and served in that position for five years; and

Whereas, in 1993, he was promoted to operations officer for the SLED SWAT Team. In addition to the duties he shouldered in this new position, in 1996 he was assigned to the training staff at SLED to help formulate training goals; and

Whereas, one such training program that George Booth formulated and which was later accredited through the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy, is the Officer Survival class. This class has proven to be highly successful and has been attended by hundreds of city, county, state, and federal officers in South Carolina and North Carolina; and

Whereas, continuing to prove himself in his work, George Booth was named the South Carolina State Police recipient of the 1998 Strom Thurmond Award for Excellence in Law Enforcement. In 2002, he was promoted to special agent in charge of the Tactical Operations Unit of SLED, which is comprised of the Aviation Unit, SWAT Team, Fugitive Task Force Team, and the Tracking Team. Additionally, he is the supervisor for the Tactical Weapons of Mass Destruction Response Team and serves on SLED’s Security Assessment Team. Further recognition of his leadership and courage came to him in 2007 when he was awarded the Divisional Medal of Valor for actions taken during deployment of the Tactical Team; and

Whereas, not one to neglect ongoing education, Major Booth is a graduate of approximately forty law enforcement‑related schools, a certified firearms and driving instructor, a graduate of IACP Advanced SWAT School and of IACP SWAT Team Administrative Management School. He brings the experience of approximately four hundred fifty tactical calls to his work; and

Whereas, having made his mark and set the bar of achievement extraordinarily high in his profession, George Booth will be remembered with affection and gratitude by colleagues and legislative friends for years to come. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, congratulate Major George Booth, of Lexington County, retiring special agent in charge of the Tactical Operations Unit of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, upon the occasion of his retirement, commend him for his many years of dedicated service, and wish him much happiness and fulfillment in all his future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Major George Booth.

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