**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR PRIVATE FIRST CLASS JASON SHUMPERT FOR HIS OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE MYRTLE BEACH POLICE GANG UNIT AND TO CONGRATULATE HIM UPON BEING NAMED THE 2017 JOE MCGARRY MEMORIAL POLICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR, AN AWARD GIVEN BY THE ROTARY CLUB OF MYRTLE BEACH.

Whereas, it is altogether fitting that the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives should pause in their deliberations to commend the significant contributions of Private First Class (Pfc.) Jason Shumpert of the Myrtle Beach Police Gang Unit; and

Whereas, Pfc. Jason Shumpert is a vital part of the Myrtle Beach Police Gang Unit, and this year was selected out of a pool of qualified candidates to be a member of the Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) Task Force; and

Whereas, as a part of the task force, Pfc. Shumpert has developed, led, and participated in numerous operations, which have led to the arrest of over forty violent offenders; and

Whereas, he is known for his perpetual willingness to help. Often called by numerous agencies to assist with investigations, primarily involving gang members and firearms, he amenably gives his aid in whatever capacity he is able; and

Whereas, his efforts, skills, and dedication in removing violent armed offenders from the community has resulted in over sixteen cases adopted within the Federal Courts; and

Whereas, on June 15, 2016, Pfc. Shumpert organized an operation in response to citizens’ complaints of violence within their community. He put a great deal of effort into gathering support from local and federal agencies during the operation. All this hard work paid off when approximately one hundred forty grams of cocaine and a firearm were removed from within the community. This also resulted in the arrest of a known violent gang member who will now face federal prosecution; and

Whereas, furthermore, in September 2016, he participated in another operation focusing on firearm and gun‑related activity. During this operation, over a kilogram of cocaine was seized, along with three firearms and over eighty‑one thousand dollars involved in the drug and gun trade; and

Whereas, Pfc. Shumpert utilizes his partnerships and contacts within the community to gather imperative information that often leads to the arrest of dangerous criminals and helps secure the safety of the citizens of Myrtle Beach; and

Whereas, not only does he combat violent gang related activity, he also takes the time to educate the community about how to identify and report these activities; and

Whereas, additionally, Pfc. Shumpert is a member of the Myrtle Beach SWAT Team, and as such, he often gives presentations for both the Gang Unit and the SWAT Team at gatherings such as the Realtors Association Tour, Leadership Academy, and the Citizen’s Police Academy; and

Whereas, even though Pfc. Shumpert is on standby at any given moment to respond from home for a SWAT call, Gang Unit, or ATF request, while off duty, he spends quality time with his wife Ana and his precious three year old daughter Kennedy; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is grateful for the dedication and sacrifice Pfc. Jason Shumpert selflessly gives to our great State day in and day out. It is everyday heroes like Pfc. Shumpert that allow the citizens of the Palmetto State to rest securely at night. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor Private First Class Jason Shumpert for his outstanding service to the Myrtle Beach Police Gang Unit and congratulate him upon being named the 2017 Joe McGarry Memorial Police Officer of the Year, an award given by the Rotary Club of Myrtle Beach.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Private First Class Jason Shumpert.

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