**South Carolina General Assembly**

126th Session, 2025-2026

**S. 563**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

Concurrent Resolution

Sponsors: Senator Cromer

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Introduced in the Senate on April 15, 2025

Introduced in the House on April 22, 2025

Adopted by the General Assembly on April 22, 2025

Summary: Medal of Valor-Newberry Sergeant Michael Claytor et al.

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

 Date Body Action Description with journal page number

 4/15/2025 Senate Introduced, adopted, sent to House (Senate Journal‑page 11)

 4/22/2025 House Introduced, adopted, returned with concurrence (House Journal‑page 57)

View the latest  [legislative information](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=563&session=126&summary=B)  at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[04/15/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/563_20250415.docx)

A concurrent RESOLUTION

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR SERGEANT MICHAEL CLAYTOR OF THE NEWBERRY COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE, ALONG WITH SLED AGENT KEITH THROWER, SLED AGENT COREY JAGER, SLED AGENT COLE POWELL, AND K9 AGENT COBA, AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM ON BEING AWARDED THE SOUTH CAROLINA SHERIFFS’ ASSOCIATION MEDAL OF VALOR.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly are pleased to learn that Sergeant Michael Claytor of the Newberry County Sheriff’s Office, along with SLED Agent Keith Thrower, SLED Agent Corey Jager, SLED Agent Cole Powell, and K9 Agent Coba, were awarded the South Carolina Sheriffs’ Association Medal of Valor on April 23, 2025, for taking action that showed fortitude and cool-headedness while under gunfire and in eminent danger; and

Whereas, the award is presented annually to law enforcement officers who perform actions above and beyond the call of duty; exhibit exceptional courage, extraordinary decisiveness, and presence of mind; or act with unusual swiftness, regardless of personal safety, in an attempt to save or protect human life; and

Whereas, early on June 11, 2024, Sergeant Michael Claytor of the Newberry County Sheriff’s Office, SLED Agent Keith Thrower, SLED Agent Corey Jager, SLED Agent Cole Powell, and K9 Agent Coba (handled by SLED Agent Powell) were assigned to serve a warrant on a person who was wanted for burglarizing a home while armed and who also was a fugitive from justice. These law enforcement officers, accompanied by K9 Agent Coba, entered a home in which the suspect was believed to be hiding; and

Whereas, having entered the home, the group of officers and K9 Coba confronted and then challenged the suspect, who was armed with a long gun; and

Whereas, the suspect pointed the weapon at the law enforcement officers and fired, striking K9 Coba, which prompted the law enforcement officers to return fire. The suspect then was neutralized and taken into custody; and

Whereas, sadly, K9 Coba suffered mortal wounds while protecting the law enforcement officers; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly appreciate the courage and dedication of law enforcement officers like Sergeant Michael Claytor of the Newberry County Sheriff’s Office, along with SLED Agents Keith Thrower, Corey Jager, Cole Powell, and K9 Agent Coba, who put their lives on the line every day and who provide safety and security to protect the citizens of our great State. 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, recognize and honor Sergeant Michael Claytor of the Newberry County Sheriff’s Office, along with SLED Agent Keith Thrower, SLED Agent Corey Jager, SLED Agent Cole Powell, and K9 Agent Coba, and congratulate them on being awarded the South Carolina Sheriffs’ Association Medal of Valor.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to these fine law enforcement officers.

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