

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 248

WHEREAS, Too often in life our everyday heroes are overlooked or overshadowed in the news by the famous or infamous, although there is little doubt that these individuals exist, and in their quick and efficient response to Hurricane Katrina, 29 members of the Oil Spill Prevention and Response field offices of the General Land Office proved to be just such heroes; and

WHEREAS, Although unimaginable obstacles awaited them when they arrived in the heart of the devastation in New Orleans, officers worked tirelessly to restore the city's environment, deploying necessary equipment, implementing clean-up strategies, and investigating spill causes; and

WHEREAS, Response officers undertook this extraordinary effort with the utmost professionalism and commitment; there was no way to prepare them for the magnitude of destruction and desperation they would encounter, yet through it all, they remained steadfast in their determination to assist their fellow Americans; and

WHEREAS, Contributing to the search and rescue operations in New Orleans were the following Oil Spill Prevention and Response officers: Craig Cook, Patrick Lynch, Johnny Darcey, Niell Irvin, J. T. Ewing, Joel Price, Richard Lynch, Richard Arnhart, Juan Salgado, Jimmy A. Martinez, Michael Baccigalopi, Scott Gaudet, Michael Janskowski, Brent Koza, Raymond Oliveira, James Duenes, Jeff Greytok, KC Sullivan, Jay Veselka, Trang Vu, Matt McCauley, Ronald Sidney, Kim Griffith, Fred Valadez, Robb Muil, Rusty Moon, Bob Caraway, Joseph Hilliard, and Holly Bellringer; and

WHEREAS, Heroism takes many forms, from selflessly responding during a crisis to volunteering for military service, and these hard-working Texas response officers have demonstrated through their actions that they too are members of this special group of people on whom others can rely; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby commend these 29 Texas response officers for their mighty search and rescue efforts following Hurricane Katrina and extend to them deep appreciation for their exemplary actions; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for these individuals as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Janek

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 15, 2006.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate