

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 766

WHEREAS, Former Santa Fe police chief Jeff Powell demonstrated exceptional skill and bravery as he led his department after the tragic campus shooting that took place at Santa Fe High School on May 18, 2018; and

WHEREAS, On the day of the shooting, a 17-year-old entered Santa Fe High School and opened fire, killing 8 students and 2 teachers and wounding 13 others; the incident was the worst act of campus gun violence in Texas history, and it left the small community stunned and heartbroken over the senseless loss of 10 innocent lives; and

WHEREAS, Chief Jeff Powell, who assumed office in August 2016, presided over the Santa Fe Police Department and took part in the capture and interrogation of the shooter, and the community's authorities rose to the challenge by effectively carrying out justice without the need for FBI intervention; and

WHEREAS, A Santa Fe native and a graduate of Santa Fe High School, Jeff Powell served his country in the United States Marine Corps and pursued his career in law enforcement as a Harris County sheriff's deputy for three years; he joined the Palestine Police Department in August 1994 and rose from patrol officer to positions of increasing responsibility, including interim assistant chief; after 23 years in Palestine, he took the reins as chief of the Santa Fe Police Department and served in that role until his retirement in August of last year; and

WHEREAS, Chief Jeff Powell's steadfast dedication to maintaining law, order, and public safety was of great benefit to a community that was reeling from tragedy, and he may take pride in the contributions that he made during this critical time; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 86th Legislature, hereby honor former Santa Fe police chief Jeff Powell for the leadership that he provided in the aftermath of the Santa Fe High School shooting and extend to him sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for Jeff Powell as an expression of high regard by the Texas Senate.

Taylor

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the
above Resolution was adopted by
the Senate on May 17, 2019.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate