

House Resolution 1815

By: Representatives McKillip of the 115th, Heard of the 114th, Purcell of the 159th, Talton of the 145th, and Williams of the 113th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending Officer Courtney Gale; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Officer Courtney Gale is back on the job with the Athens-Clarke Police
3 Department, four years, two months, and nine days after she nearly died from a brutal
4 stabbing; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Officer Gale found her calling while minoring in criminal justice and went
6 straight to the police training academy as an Athens-Clarke police cadet upon graduating in
7 1998; and
- 8 WHEREAS, she was promoted to senior officer after three years of being on the job and
9 became sergeant in 2005; and
- 10 WHEREAS, a few months prior to the attack, she graduated from an intensive, three-month
11 career development program at the University of Louisville's prestigious Southern Police
12 Institute; and
- 13 WHEREAS, she was a sergeant and supervisor in the Athens-Clarke police
14 robbery-homicide unit when she was working off-duty as a uniformed security guard at
15 Kroger and customers pointed out a man who was acting strangely; and
- 16 WHEREAS, when Officer Gale approached the man he lunged at her, knocking her down
17 to the ground, and proceeded to stab her a dozen times in her back, arms, and leg, severing
18 the officer's femoral artery; and
- 19 WHEREAS, she was in a coma for two weeks, endured several surgeries to save her leg, and
20 was released from the hospital 45 days later; and

21 WHEREAS, she made use of the last four years by recovering and earning a master's degree
22 in public administration from the University of Georgia; and

23 WHEREAS, she is currently assigned as a specialist with the training division and assists
24 with re-accreditation, an independent review of the police department conducted every three
25 years by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies; and

26 WHEREAS, she has exhibited extraordinary devotion to duty, outstanding loyalty, fine
27 leadership, and meticulous attention to detail in all her duties, and her efficient and effective
28 commitment to excellence has been continually recognized by her peers; and

29 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments and
30 dedicated public service of this distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
32 the members of this body commend Officer Courtney Gale for effective, unselfish, and
33 dedicated public service; recognize her dedication to law enforcement; and extend to her
34 their most sincere best wishes for continued health and happiness.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
36 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Officer Courtney Gale.