

Senate Resolution 265

By: Senators Williams of the 27th, Gooch of the 51st, Crane of the 28th, Wilkinson of the 50th, Harper of the 7th and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Commending the Forsyth County Sheriff's Department; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, on June 6, 2014, the Forsyth County Sheriff's Department resisted an armed
3 attack that was launched against the Forsyth County courthouse in Cumming, Georgia; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Deputy Daniel Rush, the first deputy at the scene of the attack, was shot and
5 injured while attempting to stop the perpetrator from attacking deputies, government
6 workers, and civilians inside the courthouse and in the surrounding area; and
- 7 WHEREAS, Deputy Bobby Francis displayed exemplary leadership by leading the way to
8 the courthouse through a large volume of gunfire and rendering lifesaving aid to Deputy
9 Rush before assisting with physically evacuating Deputy Rush from the scene; and
- 10 WHEREAS, Deputy Brian Chatham courageously and selflessly shielded injured Deputy
11 Rush with his body so he would not sustain further injuries from the gunfire that was raining
12 down upon them; and
- 13 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Matt Allen moved to stop the attacker from completing his assault
14 on the courthouse and assisted with physically evacuating Deputy Rush from the scene; and
- 15 WHEREAS, Corporal Matt Scott applied a tourniquet to Deputy Rush and continued to treat
16 his wounds until he was able to receive proper medical care; and
- 17 WHEREAS, Deputy Pat Sternik engaged the attacker with his pistol and shotgun from the
18 lobby through the front door of the courthouse while Deputy James White and Deputy Brian
19 Dublin engaged him with their pistols through the window of the Solicitor's Office and
20 Deputy Bill Keeton engaged the perpetrator with his pistol through the window of Courtroom
21 1A; and

22 WHEREAS, Deputy William Mouret, Deputy Robin Regan, Lieutenant Sebastian Strano,
23 and Sergeant Kenny Hughes joined the firefight outside the courthouse, fighting to vanquish
24 the attacker and restore peace and safety to the scene; and

25 WHEREAS, Lieutenant James Poe exhibited exemplary leadership by controlling the active
26 scene on the courthouse lawn during the shooting and leading the approach to the attacker
27 and his vehicle after the shooting; and

28 WHEREAS, these courageous men put all thoughts of their personal safety and well-being
29 aside and responded to the call to protect their fellow law enforcement professionals,
30 courthouse employees, and civilians, and their selfless actions in stopping this attack are
31 deserving of honor.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
33 commend the Forsyth County Sheriff's Department for their heroic actions on June 6, 2014.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
35 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the Forsyth County
36 Sheriff's Department.