

Senate Resolution 925

By: Senators Harper of the 7th, Hill of the 4th, Heath of the 31st, Brass of the 28th, Davenport of the 44th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Corporal Jordan Crawford for his heroic actions in service to
2 the citizens of the State of Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, at approximately 6:15 a.m. on January 26, 2020, Corporal Jordan Crawford
4 responded to a call from Effingham County dispatch regarding a capsized boat on the
5 Ogeechee River with all of the occupants of the vessel in the water; and

6 WHEREAS, realizing that the air temperature was near 32 degrees Fahrenheit, Corporal
7 Crawford knew he had to act quickly to get the boaters out of the freezing water; and

8 WHEREAS, Corporal Crawford responded to the Steel Bridge Landing and launched his
9 patrol boat, accompanied by an Effingham County deputy who had already arrived at the
10 landing, and they headed down river in the darkness to the incident scene; and

11 WHEREAS, upon arriving at the scene, they observed three men clinging to trees in the
12 river, which was above flood stage and extremely swift; and

13 WHEREAS, even with the turbulent water conditions, Corporal Crawford maneuvered the
14 patrol boat up to the first victim, who was hanging on to a tree branch in the water unable to
15 move, reached over, and lifted him into the boat; and

16 WHEREAS, Corporal Crawford observed that the man was noncoherent, speaking
17 erratically, and shaking uncontrollably, and his body appeared bluish-white in color — all
18 signs of severe hypothermia; he instructed the victim to huddle against his legs, providing
19 him some source of warmth; and

20 WHEREAS, recognizing the serious medical condition of the man, Corporal Crawford called
21 out to the other two victims, who were positioned in a tree further down river, telling them

22 to hold on and that he would return for them as soon as he could get their friend to the
23 landing, where EMS personnel were waiting; and

24 WHEREAS, Corporal Crawford returned to the scene and rescued the other two men, who
25 appeared to be suffering from minor hypothermia, and transported them back to the landing;
26 all three victims were taken to Effingham County Hospital for further treatment; and

27 WHEREAS, on that day, without the selfless actions of Corporal Jordan Crawford, who
28 risked his own life and used his skills, training, courage, and awareness to recognize the
29 danger to the individuals, the lives of the three boating incident victims likely would have
30 been lost; and

31 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this
32 remarkable and distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
34 recognize and commend Corporal Jordan Crawford for his heroic actions in service to the
35 citizens of the State of Georgia and extend their sincere best wishes for continued health and
36 happiness.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
38 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Corporal Jordan
39 Crawford.