

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 21

BY SENATORS DONAHUE, ADLEY, ALARIO, AMEDEE, APPEL, BROOME, CHABERT, CHAISSON, CHEEK, CLAITOR, CROWE, DORSEY, ERDEY, GAUTREAUX, GUILLORY, HEITMEIER, JACKSON, KOSTELKA, LAFLEUR, LONG, MARIONNEAUX, MARTINY, MCPHERSON, MICHOT, MILLS, MORRELL, MORRISH, MOUNT, MURRAY, NEVERS, PERRY, PETERSON, QUINN, RISER, SHAW, SMITH, THOMPSON, WALSWORTH AND WILLARD-LEWIS AND REPRESENTATIVES ABRAMSON, ANDERS, ARMES, ARNOLD, AUBERT, AUSTIN BADON, BOBBY BADON, BALDONE, BARRAS, BARROW, BILLIOT, BISHOP, BROSSETT, BURFORD, HENRY BURNS, TIM BURNS, BURRELL, CARMODY, CARTER, CHAMPAGNE, CHANDLER, CHANEY, CONNICK, CORTEZ, CROMER, DANAHAY, DIXON, DOERGE, DOVE, DOWNS, EDWARDS, ELLINGTON, FANNIN, FOIL, FRANKLIN, GALLOT, GEYMAN, GISCLAIR, GREENE, GUILLORY, GUINN, HARDY, HARRISON, HAZEL, HENDERSON, HENRY, HENSGENS, HILL, HINES, HOFFMANN, HONORE, HOWARD, HUTTER, HUVAL, GIROD JACKSON, MICHAEL JACKSON, JOHNSON, ROSALIND JONES, SAM JONES, KATZ, KLECKLEY, LABRUZZO, LAFONTA, LAMBERT, LANDRY, LEBAS, LEGER, LIGI, LITTLE, LOPINTO, LORUSSO, MCVEA, MONICA, MONToucET, MORENO, MORRIS, NORTON, NOWLIN, PEARSON, PONTI, POPE, PUGH, RICHARD, RICHARDSON, RITCHIE, ROBIDEAUX, ROY, SCHRODER, SEABAUGH, SIMON, SMILEY, GARY SMITH, JANE SMITH, PATRICIA SMITH, ST. GERMAIN, STIAES, TALBOT, TEMPLET, THIBAUT, THIERRY, TUCKER, WHITE, WILLIAMS, WILLMOTT AND WOOTON

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Covington Police Lieutenant Douglas "Wade" Sharp for extraordinary heroism in sacrificing his own life to save the life of his daughter.

WHEREAS, Lt. Sharp was a nineteen-year veteran of police work and decorated for his many acts of bravery and valor in the line of duty, including two awards of the Covington Police Department's Medal of Valor for his successful efforts to rescue citizens trapped in burning buildings; and

WHEREAS, he received the department's highest award for his bravery in 1997 by rushing into a burning apartment and saving a man and his dog in the intense heat and choking black smoke of fire; and

WHEREAS, Lt. Sharp, ten years later, would receive another award of the highest honor when he broke through a window in a blazing home, and then searched, found and carried to safety the resident who had lost consciousness and already suffered serious burns to more than thirty percent of his body; and

WHEREAS, on Wednesday, April 27, 2011, Lt. Sharp and his young daughter were camping in Mississippi and sought shelter in their camping tent as they were engulfed by a violent, howling storm sweeping across Mississippi that spawned numerous tornados; and

WHEREAS, Lt. Sharp, from his experience, realized that the storm that was pounding him was no ordinary thunderstorm and his awareness of their dangerous situation caused him to react in a split second when he heard the crack of a giant tree snapping, breaking and falling on top of the tent they were in; and

WHEREAS, his quick response and instantaneous action allowed him to push his terrified daughter out of harm's way and out of the path of the massive tree saving her life and leaving her without injury; and

WHEREAS, while Lt. Sharp saved his daughter, with no thought for his own safety, and was tragically struck and killed by the tree that would have otherwise harmed her; and

WHEREAS, Lt. Sharp was known and respected among his fellow officers, his many actions that were above and beyond the call of duty.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend its highest commendations and recognition of Covington Police Department Lieutenant Douglas "Wade" Sharp's extraordinary and courageous accomplishment in saving the lives of endangered citizens and for his ultimate sacrifice during the violent storm from which he protected his daughter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Lieutenant Douglas "Wade" Sharp and the Covington Police Department.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES