SLS 21RS-447

ORIGINAL

2021 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 26

BY SENATORS CORTEZ AND BOUDREAUX

COMMENDATIONS. Commends Major Luraine Richard on her retirement from the Lafayette Police Department.

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To commend Major Luraine Richard of the Lafayette Police Department upon her
3	retirement, and to congratulate her for a distinguished public service career of
4	thirty-six years in law enforcement.
5	WHEREAS, after witnessing crime firsthand while growing up in a rough
6	neighborhood in Opelousas, Louisiana, Luraine Richard became an officer at age
7	twenty-three with a two-year-old daughter at home and with a mission to effect a positive
8	change in the community; and
9	WHEREAS, she served thirty-six years as a uniformed police officer with the
10	Lafayette Police Department, becoming the first woman to move up through the ranks from
11	patrol officer to major; and
12	WHEREAS, Luraine Richard graduated from the police academy and joined the
13	Lafayette Police Department on January 9, 1985, which she cites as two of the most
14	memorable moments in her career; and
15	WHEREAS, when she joined the department, she was only one of two women on the
16	force and had to prove herself; and
17	WHEREAS, she served as a patrol officer, a training officer, and an investigator
18	before becoming a sergeant in the juvenile section; she later advanced to the rank of

- lieutenant, eventually becoming an administrative lieutenant in 2008 for Precinct 1, a
 crime-prone area of downtown and north Lafayette, staying there through her promotion to
 captain; and
- WHEREAS, she worked as an investigator in youth services, dealing with juvenile
 cases, an adjustment that she loved as it provided a chance to reach kids which then reached
 the parents; and
- WHEREAS, not only was Luraine Richard the longest-employed female officer in
 the department, she was the first to earn a supervisory role, trailblazing her way through
 promotions to sergeant, lieutenant, and captain; she was the first commander of an entire
 precinct, and the first woman to achieve the rank of major, making her one of three officers
 holding the most senior rank below chief; and
- WHEREAS, Major Richard earned a reputation for being fair but firm with a strong work ethic and a professional demeanor, encouraging new officers coming into the department to find balance in their work, not taking it home with them, and treating people with respect; and
- WHEREAS, Major Richard has been recognized for bringing a sense of calm, cool,
 collected, objective, rational thinking, reasonableness, and leadership to the department and
 the Lafayette community; and
- WHEREAS, in retirement, she plans to spend more time with her three daughters,
 son, and three grandchildren; and
- WHEREAS, it is appropriate that a heartfelt measure of the highest commendation be extended to Luraine Richard for an outstanding career in the field of law enforcement and for her incomparable talents she has lent to the city of Lafayette and the state, whose citizens will long reap the benefits of her knowledge, expertise, compassion, and professional standard of excellence.
- THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Major Luraine Richard of the Lafayette Police Department upon her retirement after a long and distinguished career of dedicated law enforcement service spanning thirty-six years, does hereby record for posterity her accomplishments, and express appreciation for the deep sense of pride and honor she brings to the Lafayette area and the

SLS 21RS-447

- 1 state, and does hereby extend to her every good wish for success and happiness in all of her
- 2 future endeavors.
- 3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
- 4 Major Luraine Richard.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jerry J. Guillot.

SCR 26 Original

DIGEST 2021 Regular Session

Cortez

Commends Major Luraine Richard for 36 years of dedicated service with the Lafayette Police Department.