

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

SENATE RESOLUTION

**CONGRATULATING WOONSOCKET POLICE CHIEF THOMAS S. CAREY ON HIS
RETIREMENT AFTER THIRTY-THREE YEARS OF FAITHFUL AND DEVOTED PUBLIC
SERVICE IN LAW ENFORCEMENT**

Introduced By: Senators Cote, Picard, Goldin, Satchell, and Metts

Date Introduced: January 21, 2016

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Woonsocket Police Chief Thomas S. Carey left his position as Detective
2 Major in the Crimes Against Property Unit with the St. Petersburg, Florida, Police Department in
3 2008, to assume the position of Police Chief of the Woonsocket Police Department. He inherited
4 a department in turmoil, suffering from a high turnover rate within its leadership and low morale
5 amongst its officers. All of that would change under the command and leadership of Chief Carey;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Chief Carey immediately went to work bringing everyone together and
8 building strong relationships between his department and vital community organizations such as
9 the Woonsocket Prevention Coalition and Neighborworks Blackstone River Valley. Chief Carey
10 set a high standard for professionalism and integrity and ensured that all those under his
11 command met this high standard of personal integrity; and

12 WHEREAS, Chief Carey felt strongly that community outreach was a vital component to
13 successful police work. He served as a member of the Martin Luther King Day Committee and
14 served as King Jace at the city's annual Mardi Gras celebration. Chief Carey regularly attended
15 school cleanup days, neighborhood block parties, and many other functions as a way to put a
16 human face on the police department and as a way of telling the community that his department
17 and his officers served the public and would always be there to assist those in need of help; and

18 WHEREAS, Chief Carey has also been a superb administrator navigating the City of
19 Woonsocket in a safe and steady direction despite dealing with shrinking budgets, a reduction in

1 the number of police officers, and facing a narcotics epidemic that has been sweeping the nation.
2 His steady hand, innovative policies, and strong support within the Woonsocket community will
3 be sorely missed; now, therefore be it

4 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
5 hereby congratulates Woonsocket Police Chief Thomas S. Carey on his retirement after thirty-
6 three years of distinguished and devoted service as a law enforcement officer. We wish him a
7 most happy retirement in Florida with his family, and we wish him continued success in all his
8 future endeavors; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
10 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Woonsocket Police Chief, Thomas S. Carey.

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