

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1313

By McDaniel

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Trooper Dwayne Michael Stanford upon being named Law Enforcement Officer of the Year by the Jackson Exchange Club.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal concerns to ensure the public safety and welfare, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty in service of public safety; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Tennesseans have continued the time-honored tradition of volunteerism through service in law enforcement, dedicating their time and efforts to aiding those in emergency situations and apprehending those who have broken the law; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Dwayne Michael Stanford is one such courageous public servant who was named the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year by the Jackson Exchange Club on May 11, 2010; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Stanford began his distinguished seven-year career with the Tennessee Highway Patrol (THP) in October of 2002 as a dispatcher at the THP Jackson District Headquarters; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, he was accepted into the Cadet Class of 2007 and graduated from the THP Training Academy in Nashville; he then received his first assignment as a road Trooper in Fayette County; and

WHEREAS, currently assigned to the Jackson District and a member of the Eighth District STRIKE Team, he has previously been assigned to the Memphis District of the THP and been a member of the Fourth District STRIKE Team and Riot Squad; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Stanford is renowned for his ability to recognize opportunity and seize the initiative and is especially adept at handling the very dangerous situations he and his fellow police officers encounter on a regular basis; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, Dwayne Stanford was instrumental in the apprehending of an armed robber and the suspect's extradition back to Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, Trooper Stanford garnered a total of thirty-three DUI arrests and twenty-three felony arrests, and issued 1,305 citations; also that year, he assisted in searching for and locating a missing five-year-old girl who had wandered away from her home in Gibson County; and

WHEREAS, thus far in 2010, Trooper Stanford's activity has included twenty-six arrests, six DUIs, two felony DUIs, five felony drug arrests, one captured fugitive, and 295 citations; and

WHEREAS, in January of this year, he assisted in locating and apprehending a wanted felony suspect; the following February, he located a kidnapped juvenile female victim from the state of Maryland, and in March, he located a felony fugitive suspect in Decatur County who was wanted by the FBI; and

WHEREAS, one of the most trusted, reliable, and focused officers on the Tennessee Highway Patrol, Trooper Stanford has served with the utmost integrity and professionalism, earning the respect and admiration of his peers, superiors, and the citizens he nobly serves for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, an instinctive leader with the ability to generate confidence in his fellow officers, Trooper Dwayne Stanford has contributed greatly to the safety of his fellow citizens, responding to every call with tremendous courage, fortitude, and professionalism, making a significant impact for the better on his community; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Stanford epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean, and his professionalism and dedication are evident to all who know him; and

WHEREAS, Dwayne Stanford is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Ashley Duke Stanford, and eagerly awaits the birth of their first child in September of this year; and

WHEREAS, Dwayne Stanford is a true heir to a family of law enforcement tradition; his father, Mark W. Stanford, is a Tennessee State Trooper, and his grandfather, Andrew Leon Stanford, was a Tennessee State Trooper until his retirement in 1995; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Trooper Dwayne Stanford for his dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Trooper Dwayne Michael Stanford upon being named Law Enforcement Officer of the Year by the Jackson Exchange Club, thank him for his meritorious service to the citizens of the State of Tennessee, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.