

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 40

By Southerland

A RESOLUTION to recognize and commend Chief Deputy Derrick Woods upon being named the 2020 East Tennessee Deputy of the Year.

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 this time-honored tradition 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, Chief Deputy Derrick Woods of the Cocke County Sheriff's Department is one such courageous public servant, who was recently named the 2020 East Tennessee Deputy of the Year by the Tennessee Highway Safety Office; the award was presented to Chief Woods on December 14, 2020, by East Tennessee Law Enforcement Liaison Steve Dillard; and

WHEREAS, known by all with whom he has served for being wholly committed to police work, Chief Deputy Derrick Woods has exhibited the utmost integrity and professionalism and earned the respect and admiration of his colleagues as well as the citizens of his community; he has gone above and beyond to improve traffic safety within Cocke County and East Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Chief Woods has served and protected the citizens of Cocke County with honor, dedication, and composed bravery, proving himself an exemplar among his peers; and

WHEREAS, he currently serves as the East Tennessee Network Coordinator for the Tennessee Highway Safety Office; in this capacity, he assists deputies on traffic accidents and

evaluates and investigates vehicle accidents to determine ways of preventing similar accidents in the future; he also aids other counties in obtaining highway safety grants; and

WHEREAS, Chief Deputy Derrick Woods is integral in teaching safety programs to Cosby High School and Cocke County High School driver's education classes; during his tenure, he acquired driving simulators for both schools in an effort to raise traffic safety awareness; and

WHEREAS, Cocke County and the State of Tennessee are undoubtedly better places to live because of the service of Derrick Woods; and

WHEREAS, the success of the State of Tennessee, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of our society depend, in great measure, on the dedication of people such as Chief Deputy Woods, who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others; and

WHEREAS, we find it appropriate to acknowledge and applaud Chief Woods for his many contributions to the good people of Tennessee, his unwavering commitment to others, and his astute service in Cocke County; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Chief Deputy Derrick Woods upon being named the 2020 East Tennessee Deputy of the Year, thank him for his meritorious service to the citizens of Cocke County and this State, 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 and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.