

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 541

By Parkinson

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Toney Armstrong for meritorious service to the citizens of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their careers in law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, Toney Armstrong, director of Police Services of the Memphis Police Department, is one such estimable person, who has devoted his life to the preservation of law and order and the protection of his fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Toney Armstrong earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Christian Brothers University, graduating with the distinction of magna cum laude; and

WHEREAS, he began his career as a United States Army field artillery specialist, and received an honorable discharge with the rank of specialist fourth class; and

WHEREAS, he joined the Memphis Police Department in 1989, working at the West Precinct; in 1991, he became an undercover operative and an investigator with the Organized Crime Unit; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Armstrong was promoted to sergeant in the Robbery Division in 1997, learning invaluable skills in interviewing and interrogation, and merely one year later, he was invited to join the Organized Crime Unit as team leader; and

WHEREAS, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant in 2000, in which position he implemented an effective training and professional assessment program that increased morale. He was later appointed as supervisor of the Homicide Bureau, and, under his leadership, the Bureau had the highest ranked solve rate with an eighty-seventh percentile; and

WHEREAS, he earned the rank of major and was assigned to the Investigative Bureau in 2008, and was the bureau commander for the Homicide, Felony Assault, Missing Persons,

and Crime Stoppers units. It was during this period that he received numerous accolades for his appearance on the television show, *The First 48*; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Armstrong was also appointed to colonel in 2008 and was assigned to Uniform Patrol in the Downtown District, and in 2009 he became deputy chief of Uniform Patrol District One; and

WHEREAS, he was selected as deputy director in 2010 and in this role, he oversaw the daily operations of the Memphis Police Department and managed a budget of over \$200 million; and

WHEREAS, on April 15, 2011, the Mayor of Memphis, the Honorable A. C. Wharton, Jr., appointed Toney Armstrong as the new Director of Police Services; and

WHEREAS, Toney Armstrong exemplifies the values of hard work, compassion, and devotion to community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean and diligent officer of the law; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Toney Armstrong has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues, fellow officers, and a grateful public; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Toney Armstrong for his meritorious service to the Memphis Police Department and 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.