

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 188

BY SENATOR CORTEZ

A RESOLUTION

To commend Sergeant Jonathan Walker of the St. John the Baptist Parish Sheriff's Office on being the recipient of the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association's 2022 Deputy Valor Award.

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association presents the Deputy Valor Award to recognize a deputy sheriff based on that officer's performance above and beyond the call of duty and any extreme life-threatening acts of bravery; and

WHEREAS, on July 31, 2021, Sergeant Walker responded to an active shooter incident in St. John the Baptist Parish; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Walker was off-duty on Interstate 10 (I-10) about a half mile from the scene of the incident when he decided to leave his family safely in their vehicle and advance on foot without body armor or radio to assist with the active shooter situation; and

WHEREAS, this event occurred when a man shot two people during a dispute as the result of a multi-vehicle traffic accident on I-10; and

WHEREAS, this man was headed to Alexandria with his wife who he had just married and her male friend, when he and his wife got into an argument and the man reached for his gun; and

WHEREAS, the friend escaped the car on foot and the man's wife jumped out of the car and fled to the first responders who were helping the victims of the nearby collision; and

WHEREAS, while the victims were trying to escape, the shooter shot the friend in the leg and also shot into a nearby vehicle, injuring the hand of another driver; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Walker located the suspect who was shaking and beating on the ambulance trying to get to his wife; he continued to pursue the shooter and arrested him after a brief struggle; and

WHEREAS, the victims were airlifted from the scene and taken to a New Orleans hospital where they were treated for their injuries and released; and

WHEREAS, the shooter was charged with two counts of aggravated criminal damage to property, (a felony), and illegal use of weapons, aggravated second-degree battery, (a felony), and attempted second-degree murder; and

WHEREAS, through the valiant efforts of Sergeant Walker during an active shooter incident while off-duty, Sergeant Walker was able to successfully locate and arrest the shooter, ending the threat with no fatalities; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Jonathan Walker merits the highest commendation and sincere congratulations for his outstanding contributions to the state of Louisiana and its citizens.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Sergeant Jonathan Walker of the St. John the Baptist Parish Sheriff's Office on being the recipient of the 2022 Deputy Valor Award from the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association, does hereby recognize his bravery in the face of imminent danger, does hereby recognize and record for posterity his tireless dedication and service to the citizens of St. John the Baptist Parish and the state of Louisiana, and does hereby extend to him best wishes for continued success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Sergeant Jonathan Walker.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE