



HR0936

LRB095 18880 GRL 45023 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are pleased to congratulate Joliet police officer Richard Trafton on the occasion of being the recipient of the Exchange Club of Joliet's Police Officer of the Year award; and

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WHEREAS, Officer Richard Trafton is a 13-year veteran with the Joliet Police Department; and

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WHEREAS, On the date of June 14, 2007, Joliet Police Officer Michael Sheridan was approached by an individual who stated that another subject had stabbed him and attempted to stab his baby in a nearby apartment building; Officer Richard Trafton, along with Officers Smyth and Sova, arrived as backup for Officer Sheridan; Officers Trafton, Sheridan, and Smyth entered the front of the apartment building while Officer Sova secured the rear of the building; and

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WHEREAS, Upon entering the building, Officers Trafton, Sheridan, and Smyth found the subject squatting on a second floor landing with his hands not visible; after Officer Sheridan ordered the subject to show his hands, the subject rose to his feet and shuffled toward Officer Sheridan, stabbing him twice with a concealed knife he was carrying; Officer

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1 Trafton, in a act of extreme bravery, pulled Officer Sheridan  
2 away from the subject and fired one round at the subject; after  
3 handing Officer Sheridan to Officer Smyth, Officer Trafton  
4 ordered the subject to drop the knife; the subject regained his  
5 balance and attempted to attack the officers, at which point  
6 Officer Trafton was forced to fire a second round at the  
7 subject, fatally wounding him; and

8 WHEREAS, Due to the extreme bravery and quick thinking of  
9 Officer Richard Trafton, a fellow officer's life was saved and  
10 a dangerous subject was prevented from causing further harm to  
11 the citizens of the City of Joliet; such acts are indicative of  
12 Officer Trafton's intense dedication and loyalty to the safety  
13 and well-being of his fellow man; and

14 WHEREAS, On February 19, 2008, Officer Richard Trafton will  
15 be presented with the Police Officer of the Year award by the  
16 Exchange Club of Joliet for his years of dedicated service in a  
17 ceremony in his honor; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
19 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
20 congratulate Officer Richard Trafton on the occasion of being  
21 the recipient of the Police Officer of the Year award and wish  
22 him continued success and happiness in the future; and be it  
23 further

1           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
2 presented to Richard Trafton as a symbol of our esteem and  
3 respect.