## STATE OF NEW YORK

## LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY BUFFALO, N.Y., DECEMBER 6, 2018 A.D.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT at a regular session of the Legislature of Erie County held in the County Hall, in the City of Buffalo, on the 6th day of December, 2018 A.D., a resolution was adopted, of which the following is a true copy:

**WHEREAS.** The Erie County Legislature seeks to honor individuals and institutions of Erie County who enhance the quality of life in the community through their efforts; and

WHEREAS, this proclamation seeks to honor the Orchard Park Police Department for reaching its 25th year implementing the D.A.R.E. Program in the community; and

WHEREAS, D.A.R.E. stands for Drug Abuse Resistance Education and was started in California in 1983; and

WHEREAS, the Orchard Park Police Department has been teaching the D.A.R.E. Program since 1993 in an effort to engage and equip the youth in our community by "teaching students decision-making for safe and healthy lives"; and

WHEREAS, the Orchard Park Police D.A.R.E. Program has been taught to 5<sup>th</sup> graders in 8 local elementary schools reaching over 15,000 students; and

WHEREAS, the Orchard Park Police D.A.R.E. Program teaches responsibility, health effects of alcohol and tobacco use, risks and consequences, peer pressure and resistance strategies, handling stressful situations, communication, helping others and getting help from others and internet safety; and

WHEREAS, the Orchard Park Police D.A.R.E. Program has been greatly supported by community businesses, Parent Teacher Organization's and the local school districts; and

WHEREAS, the Orchard Park Police D.A.R.E. Program has reached success because of the commitment and service of its DARE Officers; Officer Tom Buranich, Chief Andrew Benz, Detective John Payne, Lieutenant Patrick Fitzgerald, Officer Leonard Govenittio, Officer Brian Lukowski and Officer Kristen Mazur.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

**RESOLVED**, the Erie County Legislature pauses in its deliberations to honor the Orchard Park Police Department for continuing its D.A.R.E. Program into its 25<sup>th</sup> year and reaching the youth in our community with skills that can last a lifetime.