

SHORT TITLE: Commending Second Lieutenant Dennis Dutsch for receiving the Humanitarianism Trooper of the Year award; and directing distribution.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 45th Legislature (1995)

SENATE CONCURRENT  
RESOLUTION NO. 11

By: Ford of the Senate

and

Cozort of the House

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution commending Second Lieutenant Dennis Dutsch for receiving the Humanitarianism Trooper of the Year award; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Dennis Dutsch has been a State Trooper for nineteen years. He is presently assigned to Executive Security, Troop R and was recently promoted from Trooper to Second Lieutenant; and

WHEREAS, prior to his present assignment, Trooper Dutsch was stationed in Tulsa with Troop B where he performed duty as a Trooper/Pilot; and

WHEREAS, on August 18, 1994, Trooper Dutsch was advised of an overdue aircraft. The aircraft containing four persons was enroute from El Paso, Texas, to Pryor, Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, before daybreak, Trooper Dutsch was airborne, flying a search pattern between Tulsa and Pryor. Receiving information that an Emergency Locator Transponder (ELT) was signaling near the Pryor airport, he piloted his patrol aircraft to the airport where he commenced flying search patterns. After making numerous low passes, he spotted the downed aircraft; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Dutsch after reporting the find to the Troop L headquarters in Tulsa landed at the Pryor airport. He quickly left his aircraft and approached the wreckage. Although noticing a strong odor of fuel vapor, he remained at the location and, upon

moving some wreckage, found two bodies. Hearing a voice, he located a survivor who was pinned under the wreckage; and

WHEREAS, after assessing the survivor's condition, he summoned help and then returned to the aircraft wreckage with its ever increasing danger of fire. He was able to move an 800 pound engine to allow access to the victim. He also cleared other debris in the route to rescue the victim, including a second 800 pound engine; and

WHEREAS, although injuring his leg as a result of moving the engines, Trooper Dutsch crawled back to the survivor to re-assure the victim and plan the best means of extrication. Upon arrival of rescue personnel and equipment, Trooper Dutsch directed the rescue of the survivor. During this process, an electrical fire broke out, but with the assistance of a Pryor fireman, Trooper Dutsch ultimately extinguished the blaze; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Dutsch again entered the interior of the wreckage to place a backboard under the victim. As he was doing so, fire once again broke out. Trooper Dutsch stayed with the survivor, covering the face and eyes of the survivor to shield him from the chemicals. All these rescue operations occurred with the area and aircraft permeated with aviation gasoline. The survivor was finally removed from the wreckage while Trooper Dutsch remained at the scene; and

WHEREAS, Second Lieutenant Dennis Dutsch received the Humanitarianism Trooper of the Year award for endangering his own life and safety to save the life of the survivor of the plane crash.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 45TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature commends Second Lieutenant Dennis Dutsch for receiving the Humanitarianism Trooper of the Year award.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Second  
Lieutenant Dennis Dutsch.

45-1-1026

THC