

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 51st Legislature (2007)

3 HOUSE

4 RESOLUTION 1035

By: Walker

5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Resolution commending Trooper Shawn Laughlin as the  
8 2006 Highway Users Federation Heroism Award  
9 recipient; and directing distribution.

10  
11 WHEREAS, on April 24, 2006, at approximately 5 p.m., a motorist  
12 suffered an apparent seizure while driving his car on U.S. Highway  
13 283, approximately 2.5 miles east of Mangum, in Greer County; and

14 WHEREAS, due to the seizure, the motorist was unable to maintain  
15 control of his car and ran off the road, drove through a couple of  
16 barbed wire fences and into a farm pond. Fortunately, three ladies  
17 who were stopped at a nearby roadside park witnessed the accident  
18 and called authorities; and

19 WHEREAS, Trooper Shawn Laughlin, of the Greer County Detachment  
20 of Troop M, was dispatched to the scene and arrived within minutes.  
21 Upon his arrival, Trooper Laughlin was advised by the three  
22 witnesses that they had not seen anyone exit the vehicle since it  
23 entered the water and they were concerned about the welfare of the  
24 driver and other possible occupants of the car; and

1       WHEREAS, without hesitation or consideration for his own  
2 personal safety, Trooper Laughlin removed his gun belt and entered  
3 the water to rescue the victims in the car; and

4       WHEREAS, Trooper Laughlin is not a rescue diver nor is he a  
5 trained swimmer. In fact, Trooper Laughlin can barely keep himself  
6 afloat in deep water. Yet these thoughts never crossed his mind as  
7 he entered the murky water. His only concern was the lives of the  
8 people inside the submerged vehicle; and

9       WHEREAS, Trooper Laughlin reached the car in short order and was  
10 able to open the driver's door. Upon determining that the driver  
11 was the only occupant of the vehicle, Trooper Laughlin extricated  
12 the still seizing and disoriented driver from the submerged vehicle  
13 and safely brought the driver to shore; and

14       WHEREAS, Emergency Medical Services personnel arrived shortly  
15 thereafter and began treating the driver, ultimately taking him to  
16 the Mangum City Hospital where he was admitted for treatment and has  
17 since recovered.

18       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
19 OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 51ST OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

20       THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives commends and  
21 congratulates Trooper Shawn Laughlin for his dedication and heroism  
22 that led to him being named the 2006 Highway Users Federation  
23 Heroism Award recipient and for his continued service to protecting  
24 the citizens of Oklahoma.

1            THAT copies of this resolution be dispatched to Trooper Shawn  
2 Laughlin and to Oklahoma Department of Public Safety Commissioner  
3 Kevin Ward.

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5            51-1-8010            BW            05/04/07

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