

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SENATE
4 RESOLUTION 40

By: Ivester

5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Resolution honoring Shawn Laughlin for his heroism
8 in saving the life of a stricken driver;
9 congratulating Trooper Shawn Laughlin for his
10 selection as recipient of the 2006 Highway Users
11 Federation Heroism Award; and directing distribution.

12 WHEREAS, on April 24, 2006, at approximately 5:00 in the
13 afternoon, Mr. Ross A. King suffered an apparent seizure while
14 driving his car on U.S. Highway 283, some 2 1/2 miles east of Mangum
15 in Greer County, Oklahoma. Due to the seizure, Mr. King was unable
16 to maintain control of his car and ran off of the road, drove
17 through some barbed wire fences, and into a farm pond. Three ladies
18 who witnessed the event called authorities; and

19 WHEREAS, Trooper Shawn Laughlin (#324) of the Greer County
20 Detachment of Troop M of the Oklahoma Highway Patrol was dispatched
21 to the scene and arrived within minutes. The three witnesses
22 advised Trooper Laughlin that they had not seen anyone exit the
23 vehicle since it entered the water. Without hesitation or
24 consideration for his own personal safety, Trooper Laughlin removed

1 his gun belt and entered the water to rescue whoever was occupying
2 the car. Trooper Laughlin cannot swim and can barely float.

3 However, as he entered the murky water, his only concern was the
4 lives of the people trapped inside of the submerged vehicle; and

5 WHEREAS, Trooper Laughlin reached the car and was able to open
6 the driver's door. The driver, Mr. Ross King, was the only occupant
7 and was still disoriented. Trooper Laughlin extricated him from the
8 submerged vehicle and towed him safely to shore. Medical personnel
9 arrived soon, treated Mr. King, and then took him to the Mangum City
10 Hospital. Mr. King was admitted for treatment and has since
11 recovered; and

12 WHEREAS, in the opinion of the three witnesses, the attending
13 medical personnel, and Mr. Ross King, the quick response and
14 selfless actions of Trooper Laughlin saved the life of the stricken
15 driver, Mr. Ross A. King.

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION
17 OF THE 51ST OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

18 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate honors Oklahoma Highway Patrol
19 Trooper Shawn Laughlin for his heroism in saving the life of a
20 stricken driver.

21 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate congratulates Trooper Shawn
22 Laughlin for his selection as the recipient of the 2006 Oklahoma
23 Highway Users Federation Heroism Award.

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1 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Oklahoma
2 Highway Patrol Trooper Shawn Laughlin and to Oklahoma Department of
3 Public Safety Commissioner Kevin Ward.

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