

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 55th Legislature (2016)

3 SENATE  
4 RESOLUTION 85

By: Pittman, Matthews,  
Barrington and Fry

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7 AS INTRODUCED

8 A Resolution congratulating Carl Holmes as the  
9 recipient of the 2016 Congressional Fire Services  
10 Institute/Motorola Solutions Mason Lankford Fire  
11 Service Leadership Award; recognizing the success of  
12 the Carl Holmes Executive Development Institute and  
13 commending Carl Holmes for his 65 years and lifelong  
14 dedication to the Oklahoma City Fire Department; and  
15 directing distribution.

16 WHEREAS, the Congressional Fire Services Institute's Board of  
17 Directors selected Oklahoma City's retired Assistant Fire Chief Carl  
18 Holmes as the recipient of the 2016 CFSI/Motorola Solutions Mason  
19 Lankford Fire Service Leadership Award at the 28th Annual National  
20 Fire and Emergency Services Dinner on May 5, 2016, in Washington  
21 D.C.; and

22 WHEREAS, Assistant Fire Chief Holmes started his career as a  
23 firefighter in 1951 with the Oklahoma City Fire Department and  
24 graduated from the Department's first class of twelve African  
Americans hired; and

1       WHEREAS, throughout his career, Chief Holmes was involved in  
2 mentoring fire officers, African Americans, Hispanics and women and  
3 was an advocate for human resource management practices in fire  
4 departments; and

5       WHEREAS, in 1991, Chief Holmes established the Carl Holmes  
6 Executive Development Institute (EDI) to develop the management  
7 skills and leadership potential of African American firefighters.  
8 Now in its 25th year, the EDI has graduated hundreds of students who  
9 eventually obtained leadership roles in the fire service as Company  
10 Officers. In Oklahoma City, there are currently 59 African American  
11 firefighters, and they comprise about 6 percent of the department's  
12 work force; and

13       WHEREAS, the majority, if not all, women and persons of color  
14 who have become fire chiefs in the United States over the past  
15 twenty-plus years, have attended the Carl Holmes Executive  
16 Development Institute, including our own retired administrative Fire  
17 Chief, Oklahoma State Senator, Kevin Matthews. Former State Senator  
18 Angela Monson has also served as a guest presenter to the EDI.

19       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION  
20 OF THE 55TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

21       THAT members of the Oklahoma State Senate congratulate Carl  
22 Holmes as the recipient of the 2016 CFSI/Motorola Solutions Mason  
23 Lankford Fire Service Leadership Award.

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1        THAT the members of the Oklahoma State Senate recognize Carl  
2 Holmes for his tenacity and dedication in creating the Carl Holmes  
3 Executive Development Institute, as well as his 65 years and  
4 lifelong service to our state and his community as a firefighter.

5        THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Carl Holmes.

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