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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 406

Offered March 4, 2010

*Commending Steve Crowder.*

Patron—Cline; Senators: Deeds and Hanger

WHEREAS, Steve Crowder, the dedicated and respected police chief of the City of Lexington, retired on December 31, 2009, after a 34-year law-enforcement career that included 27 years in Lexington; and

WHEREAS, an exemplary leader, Chief Crowder oversaw the 15 uniformed officers, two clerical employees, and the Special Enforcement Officer of the Lexington Police Department as they worked to protect the safety of the citizens of Lexington and enforce the laws of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of the Professional Executive Leadership School, Chief Crowder constantly motivated his officers as they performed their duties and encouraged them to be leaders in the community; and

WHEREAS, Chief Crowder was proud to be a part of the great community of Lexington and worked diligently throughout his career to establish excellent working relations with the City and various organizations and to serve the public with integrity and professionalism; and

WHEREAS, Chief Crowder worked with neighborhood watch programs, the Washington and Lee University Public Safety Department, and the Virginia Military Institute Police Department to ensure the safety of all Lexington residents; and

WHEREAS, Chief Crowder often went above and beyond his daily responsibilities to be of service to the City of Lexington and its residents, including functioning as the city's emergency services coordinator in addition to his duties as police chief; and

WHEREAS, Chief Crowder was honored at a retirement celebration on December 23, 2009, at the Washington and Lee University Evans Dining Hall, where he received tokens of appreciation and heard remarks from many grateful members of the community; and

WHEREAS, devoted to his family, Steve Crowder enjoys spending time with his loving family, including his wife, Molly, and two children, Taylor and Justin; he also serves his community as a member and usher at Lexington Presbyterian Church; and

WHEREAS, Steve Crowder has devoted his professional life to serving the citizens of the Commonwealth with professionalism, integrity, and dedication; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Steve Crowder on his 34 years of outstanding service as a law-enforcement professional; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Steve Crowder as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude for his outstanding public service and best wishes for a happy and rewarding retirement.