

2021 SPECIAL SESSION I

ENROLLED

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 548

Commending David Hirn, Kate Williamson, and Courtni Pannell.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 27, 2021

WHEREAS, David Hirn, Kate Williamson, and Courtni Pannell, dedicated law-enforcement officers with the Hopewell Police Department, worked together to save the life of an infant in early 2021; and

WHEREAS, David Hirn, a United States Army veteran and sergeant in the Criminal Investigation Division; Kate Williamson, a detective in the Criminal Investigation Unit; and Courtni Pannell, a graduate of Radford University and a patrol officer with the Field Services Division, have 16 years of combined experience in law-enforcement; and

WHEREAS, on the morning of January 11, 2021, David Hirn, Kate Williamson, and Courtni Pannell responded to a report of a woman entering the Appomattox River while holding an infant near Riverside Avenue in Hopewell; and

WHEREAS, without regard for their own safety, David Hirn, Kate Williamson, and Courtni Pannell bravely entered the water to rescue both individuals; and

WHEREAS, while the woman was ultimately pulled to safety by the crew of a Hopewell Fire Department rescue boat, David Hirn located the unresponsive infant in the water and attempted resuscitation once back on shore; and

WHEREAS, David Hirn's efforts were successful and the infant later made a full recovery at Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, David Hirn, Kate Williamson, and Courtni Pannell have served the Hopewell community with integrity, professionalism, and distinction; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That David Hirn, Kate Williamson, and Courtni Pannell hereby be commended for their heroic, lifesaving actions in January 2021; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare copies of this resolution for presentation to David Hirn, Kate Williamson, and Courtni Pannell as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration for their courage and commitment to public service.

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