

By: Senator S. Flowers

SENATE MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

TO REMEMBER DETECTIVE KEVIN COLLINS AND TO RECOGNIZE
HIS SERVICE TO THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.

Subtitle

TO REMEMBER DETECTIVE KEVIN COLLINS AND
TO RECOGNIZE HIS SERVICE TO THE STATE.

WHEREAS, on October 5, 2020, Detective Kevin Collins of the violent crime division of the Pine Bluff Police Department was killed in the line of duty, the first department officer to be killed in duty since 1985; and

WHEREAS, Detective Collins was working with two (2) other officers on an ongoing local criminal investigation that was related to the shooting, and one (1) of the other officers was injured but survived; and

WHEREAS, Detective Collins was hired by the department in 2015 and was "an excellent officer", according to Police Chief Kelvin Sergeant; and

WHEREAS, a career in law enforcement had long been Detective Collins' dream, beginning in his childhood and influenced by his closeness to the public service since his stepfather Charles Hobbs was a captain with the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office; and

WHEREAS, he had an unwavering dedication to his goal, starting out at the Department of Correction and the Metropolitan Emergency Communication Association before realizing his dream of becoming an officer; and

WHEREAS, the unwavering dedication to his goal led to an unwavering



commitment to his job, and within two (2) years of hire, Detective Collins was named 2017 Officer of the Year by the department for rescuing a ninety-five-year-old woman from a burning building; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, Detective Collins participated as a member of the panel for the Domestic Abuse and Violence Awareness Conference held on the campus of the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff; and in 2020, he was honored and remembered at the conference; and

WHEREAS, Detective Collins grew up in Pine Bluff and graduated from Pine Bluff High School, and in addition to his employment with the department, he also served as a security officer at the church he attended, the Pine Bluff campus of New Life Church, where he did everything from protect the church to rock babies and talk to teens, and of Detective Collins, the pastor said, "[Kevin was] the kind of man you want your son to be like. Tall, handsome, generous, kind, but tough as nails."; and

WHEREAS, Detective Collins was known to all for being deeply committed to the community, down to earth, strong but compassionate, a steady and constant support, and perhaps most of all, a police officer who exemplified the role of "to protect and serve"; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Shirley Washington said, "He was one of the finest officers you could ever hope to have. He was committed . . . [law enforcement] wasn't just a job to him. It was his mission.",

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the Senate honor the memory of Detective Kevin Collins, extend sincere condolences to his family, and recognize his contributions to the State of Arkansas and his local community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution be provided to the family of Detective Collins by the Secretary of the Senate.