

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 386

Approved June 23, 2000

RESOLVED, That the Members of the Providence City Council hereby declare their support for Colonel Urbano Prignano, Jr., Chief of the Providence Police Department, for his outstanding leadership and continued dedication to the Providence Police Department and to the people it protects and serves.

WHEREAS, Over the last five years, Colonel Prignano has extended his leadership and talents to modernization of the Police Department, innovations that have improved the performance of the Police Department and for the "take charge attitude" that has buoyed the confidence of the men and women of the Police Department, this City Council and to the people of Providence, and

WHEREAS, Over the last two years Colonel Prignano has replaced more than one quarter of the police automobile fleet, purchasing eighty six (86) new vehicles through an efficient, less costly purchasing process, and

WHEREAS, In 1997, the Police Department confiscated a bus during the course of a series of drug investigations and this bus was completely refurbished through funding from asset forfeitures and has been extensively utilized for the KIDS, INC., Program, an interim school for violent youths, and

WHEREAS, In 1998, the Police Department utilized grant funds secured by Colonel Prignano for the purchase of a new van for the bomb squad, and

WHEREAS, Over the past years, at the direction of Colonel Prignano, the Police Department purchased and installed state of the art PC based Computer Network Systems totaling One Hundred Fifty (150) within the Police Department, entirely funded by grants, and

WHEREAS, In June 1998, the Police Department received delivery of 100 lap-top computers for installation in all patrol vehicles, serving multi-functionally to type police reports, retrieve criminal histories, retrieve information on wanted individuals and communicate through e-mail messages with all officers and the Communications Department, and

WHEREAS, In 1996, a unit was created, at the direction of Colonel Prignano, to combat and prevent gang related activity within the City of Providence, and this unit is supported with a full time assignment from the Rhode Island State Police, and

WHEREAS, In the Summer of 1996, the Police Department, at the direction of Colonel Prignano, purchased shallow-draft boats, absent city tax dollars, to serve as emergency patrol boats associated with the ever popular waterfires, and

WHEREAS, The Police Department, at the direction of Colonel Prignano, purchased bullet-proof vests to enhance the safety of our city's officers in the Special Response Unit with funds generated through the Asset Forfeiture Program, and

Cuneidra Butler, *Cuneidra* Hassett, *Cuneidra* floydii, *Cuneidra* de Rugg,
Cuneidra Nola, *Cuneidra* Jones, *Cuneidra* Morris and *Cuneidra* Clark

WHEREAS, The Police Department, at the direction of Colonel Prignano, purchased high speed chase equipment, commonly known as "stingers", to reduce the dangers associated with high speed pursuits involving suspects, at no cost to city taxpayers, and

WHEREAS, Colonel Prignano has ordered the overhaul of the department's evidence and property room with the installation of an internal camera system to monitor all activity in the evidence and property room at all times, and

WHEREAS, Over the past two (2) years, the department, at the direction of Colonel Prignano, instituted the bicycle patrol unit to enhance police visibility, outfitting the unit to service special responses on patrol, and

WHEREAS, The Providence Police Department, at the behest of Colonel Prignano, established non-violence training in accordance with the Kingian Philosophy, wherein the objective of the program is to reduce the level of incidents where police are forced to use physical force, and where this program certified nineteen (19) police officers as instructors, and where three hundred (300) police officers have participated in the non-violence training coordinated by Sergeant Tonya King-Harris, including a cultural diversity emphasis, and

WHEREAS, The department, at the direction of Colonel Prignano, has established a mandatory "entry-level diversity education program", wherein the program has been identified by outside observers as the most intense program of its kind in the United States, as the program requirement is one hundred (100) hours of training and wherein this program emphasizes field experience relating to issues of race, ethnicity, gender, social class and sexual orientation, and

WHEREAS, The Police Department in 1995, at the direction of Chief Prignano, established a specialized Domestic Violence Bureau to address the volatility of domestic violence cases, and where this unit has been recognized as a model unit in the state and throughout the New England; an elderly affairs unit has been incorporated into this bureau to protect elderly Providence residents, and

WHEREAS, The "Accident Recovery Program", established in 1995, adopting a comprehensive strategy for the recovery of damages incurred by the department through motor vehicle accidents recovering Two Hundred Thousand (\$200,000.00) Dollars in property damage, wherein the department has coordinated its efforts with the City Solicitor to recover medical expenses and wages of officers injured in the accidents, and

WHEREAS, In 1997, Mayor Vincent A. Cianci, Jr., executed a contract with NEC Technology to furnish the Police Department with an automated fingerprint system, advancing the department under the leadership of Colonel Prignano to the distinctive honor and recognition by the Law and Order Magazine, a national periodical, as one of the most technologically advanced departments in the United States, and

WHEREAS, In 1997, ordered the building of partnership with the Providence School Department in order to reduce crime among juveniles, wherein the initiative "Behind the Badge" involves police officers addressing middle school students in the non-threatening environment of the school, and

WHEREAS, In 1997, the department began to integrate the concept of community policing as a department-wide strategy, wherein the Patrol Bureau Officers are also given

special duty assignments with the Community Policing Units to develop improved problem solving techniques, and

WHEREAS, In the Fall of 1997, the Police Department, under the leadership of Colonel Prignano, initiated an interim school for violent youths, entitled, KIDS, INC., to develop academics and mentoring, and wherein school teachers are provided by the Providence Community Action Program in this full service program, and

WHEREAS, Colonel Prignano has implemented mobile Video Recording Systems in the patrol vehicles to monitor police conduct and serve to counter false claims against the city.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That Colonel Urbano Prignano, Chief of the Providence Police Department, has distinguished himself as an outstanding leader of the Police Department of the Capital City, and has achieved numerous awards and recognition in addition to the meager mention of his accomplishments identified herein, and where this City Council is duty bound to formally recognize the achievements and substantial modernization of the Police Department under his direction.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That by virtue of this Resolution, the City Council congratulates Colonel Prignano with this expression of confidence and admiration, and whereas, the people of this great city support the continued progress that has been made by our Chief of Police and the hard working, selfless professionals of the Providence Police Department.

CITY COUNCIL
JUN 15 2000
READ AND PASSED

PRES.

CLERK

APPROVED

JUN 23 2000

MAYOR