

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 314

*Approved* August 14, 1972

WHEREAS, Harry W. Blunt of 37 Arthur Street, East Providence, Rhode Island, without regard for his own life, has performed an act of extraordinary bravery within the City of Providence on April 7, 1972, when he jumped into the Providence River, from the Point Street Bridge, and rescued from possible drowning two residents of this City; Jacqueline L. Shavers and her son, Robert C. Shavers, and

WHEREAS, in this extraordinary act of bravery, Harry W. Blunt pulled Mrs. Shavers and Master Shavers from the partially submerged automobile, which had crashed through the railing along the Point Street Bridge and dropped into fourteen feet of water, and

WHEREAS, with the aid of three City of Providence Department of Public Works Employees, Fred Bailey, Fred Deslauriers, and Alfred Mandello, he caused this 27-year old mother and her 5-year old son to be rescued from the frigid waters of the Providence River, and

WHEREAS, under the provisions of Chapter 1972-24, approved May 22, 1972, the Committee on Public Welfare of the City Council, having investigated and received evidence concerning this act, are of the opinion that the said act was one of extraordinary bravery,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Committee on Public Welfare of the City Council does hereby concur with the recommendation of His Honor, Mayor Joseph A. Doorley, Jr., that this brave young man be nominated for a citation and that the City Council authorize the bestowal of the Municipal Medal upon Harry W. Blunt of 37 Arthur Street, East Providence, Rhode Island, in recognition of the aforementioned extraordinary act of bravery and valor, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that His Honor the Mayor is hereby invited to present the said Municipal Medal to Harry W. Blunt

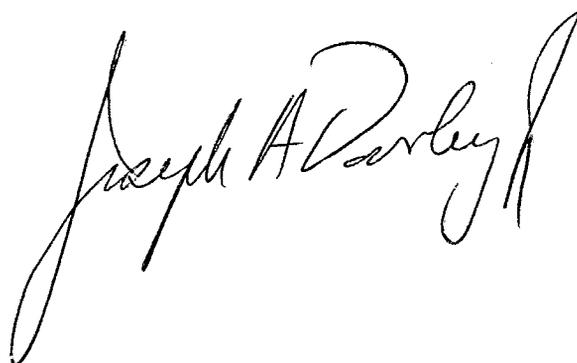
at the next meeting of the City Council scheduled to be held on Thursday, September 7, 1972, at 8:00 o'clock P. M., in the Chamber of the City Council, City Hall, Providence.

**IN CITY COUNCIL**

AUG 3 - 1972

READ and PASSED

.....  
*Richard C. Capria* President  
Clerk

A large, handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joseph A. Darby". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the printed text.

THE COMMITTEE ON

*Public Welfare*

Approves Passage of

The Within Resolution

*Yonnet Vespa*

Chairman

*July 20, 1972*

Clark

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WELFARE

TO THE HONORABLE THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

Gentlemen:

Your Committee, by virtue of the provisions of Chapter 1972-24, approved May 22, 1972, relative to the bestowal of the Municipal Medal to any deserving person or persons who has performed an extraordinary act of bravery or valor in the City of Providence, respectfully reports:

With respect to the candidacy of Harry W. Blunt, age 39, of 37 Arthur Street, East Providence, Rhode Island, for the awarding of the Municipal Medal, who, on April 7, 1972, at about 8:45 o'clock A. M., jumped into the Providence River, from the Point Street Bridge, and rescued Mrs. Jacqueline L. Shavers, age 27, of 160 Doyle Avenue, who was the operator of a motor vehicle which crashed through the iron railing on the bridge and dropped into approximately 14 feet of water. With Mrs. Shavers, in the same automobile, was her son, Robert C. Shavers, age 5; your Committee submits the detailed auto accident investigation identified as C. R. 88-64, together with a related map and Providence Police Department Traffic Bureau Report No. 63 which describes, in detail, the heroic act undertaken by Mr. Blunt.

Your Committee, upon thorough investigation of this act, fortified with the report of the Police Department, as above noted, hereby recommends that the Municipal Medal of the City of Providence, Rhode Island, created by Ordinance of the City Council on May 7, 1915, be bestowed upon Harry W. Blunt of 37 Arthur Street, East Providence, Rhode Island, for his act of bravery performed within the City of Providence.

Accordingly, your Committee transmits the accompanying Resolution with recommendation the same be adopted.

Respectfully submitted for the  
Committee

  
Chairman