**South Carolina General Assembly**

119th Session, 2011-2012

**S. 790**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

Senate Resolution

Sponsors: Senator Williams

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Introduced in the Senate on April 7, 2011

Adopted by the Senate on April 7, 2011

Summary: Willie L. Smith

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

4/7/2011 Senate Introduced and adopted

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[4/7/2011](file:///p:\pprever\2011-12\790_20110407.docx)

**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF WILLIE L. SMITH, FORMER CITY OF MARION POLICE CHIEF, AND TO EXTEND BEST WISHES TO HIM AND HIS FAMILY.

Whereas, former City of Marion Police Chief Willie L. Smith recently completed a forty-year career in law enforcement; and

Whereas, Chief Smith served with the Marion Police Department for thirty-four years and with Alcohol Beverage Control for six years; and

Whereas, hired by Mayor Bobby Gerald and City Council, Chief Smith quickly expanded the size of the Marion Police Department; and

Whereas, Chief Willie Smith led a force of 27 full‑time officers engaged in various aspects of police work, and they performed their service with honesty, zeal, courage, fidelity, and sound judgment under his direction; and

Whereas, Chief Smith provided relevant training for all police officers using effective prevention and enforcement techniques to appropriately address issues of crime in the city; and

Whereas, he maintained effective uniform visibility in the city using police motor vehicles and foot patrol; and

Whereas, his many accomplishments while at the Marion Police Department include recruiting grants for gun locks in the home and child safety helmets, increasing seat belt usage, forming a countywide drug unit, establishing the Identification Kit program for young children, and the implementation of the Marion Police Cadet program and the Moonlight Basketball program; and

Whereas, the youth of Marion greatly benefitted under Chief Smith’s leadership as he put into action a volunteer curfew for young people and a mentoring program; and

Whereas, during his tenure as police chief, he initiated a toy drive for needy children in the community with the help of the Department of Social Services, and he placed a School Resource Officer at the junior high school, high school, and alternative school; and

Whereas, under Chief Smith’s direction, the department underwent a new facelift, changing to dark blue uniforms, a Swamp Fox shoulder patch, and new police vehicles equipped with cameras; and

Whereas, Chief Smith also honorably served his country for two years in the United States Army; and

Whereas, Chief Smith is married to Elista H. Smith and together they have two children, Craig L. Smith and Tara Smith Hughes, five grandchildren, and one great-grandchild; and

Whereas, Chief Smith is an exceptional leader in his community and is a friend to all. He considers public service a virtue and a privilege and he is more than a true southern gentleman - he is a gentle man to his community; and

Whereas, in view of his commitment to the public safety needs of his community, the members of the Senate find it most fitting to pause in their deliberations to honor former Marion Police Chief Willie L. Smith. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor the many accomplishments of Willie L. Smith, former City of Marion Police Chief, and to extend best wishes to him and his family.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Willie L. Smith.

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