

## House Resolution No. 460

**Whereas**, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State residents who have admirably demonstrated the highest levels of professionalism and courage while fulfilling their duties as state employees; and

**Whereas**, John Pierick is a Corrections Officer I at the Crossroads Correctional Center in Cameron, Missouri; and

**Whereas**, on Friday, February 27, 2004, CO I John Pierick will receive a Missouri Department of Corrections Director's Award of Valor for heroic services in light of his lifesaving actions on October 30, 2003, while on duty; and

**Whereas**, during the evening mainline movement involving several hundred inmates going to and from dining halls, an offender approached a Lieutenant and asked to speak to him; and

**Whereas**, when the offender produced a homemade weapon fashioned from a belt and a padlock and then violently struck the Lieutenant in the face, a second corrections officer intervened and was in turn injured in the head; and

**Whereas**, CO I Pierick then responded to the scene with another officer to secure the violent inmate, gain control of the weapon, and remove it from the offender's grasp; and

**Whereas**, after the attacker was under control and the weapon safely in the hands of correctional personnel, additional officers were directed to the scene to continue the evening mainline movement and the injured parties received emergency medical treatment; and

**Whereas**, CO I Pierick was initially hired by the Missouri Department of Corrections on November 3, 1997; and

**Whereas**, John Pierick is the beloved husband of Helen Pierick and the loving stepfather of Charles Willits, Mary Willits, and Eddie Willits:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to salute CO I John Pierick and to convey to him this legislative body's heartiest commendation of his unselfish actions on October 30, 2003, which maintained order at a potentially volatile time and undoubtedly saved the lives of fellow corrections officers and of those incarcerated for earlier crimes; and

**Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of Corrections Officer I John Pierick of Crossroads Correctional Center.

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
Representative James O. Guest  
District No. 5

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 460, adopted February 9, 2004.

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Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker