RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE
BADGE OF HONOR MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

WHEREAS, the membership of the Virginia Association Chiefs of Police works to insure that Virginia law enforcement officers are properly trained to perform their important work, to do so with professionalism and competence and to return home safely to their families at the end of a shift; and

WHEREAS, since the first recorded police death in 1792, more than 17,000 law enforcement officers in the United States have been killed in the line of duty and a total of 1649 law enforcement officers died in the line of duty during the past 10 years (an average of one death every 53.5 hours or 164 per year); and

WHEREAS, surviving family members are overwhelmed by the prospect of navigating a technically complex and legally daunting benefits process in the days immediately following the loss of a loved one; and

WHEREAS, the Badge of Honor Memorial Foundation is a national non-profit 501(c) organization formed to provide assistance to the families and departments of police officers and other public safety officers who lose their lives in the line of duty; and

WHEREAS, the Badge of Honor Memorial Foundation helps departments prepare a Casualty Assistance Plan in advance of the loss of an officer, actively assists the family members of fallen officers to obtain all the statutory benefits available to them and provides each family coping with their loss with a memorial statue to serve as a lasting symbol of recognition for the life of service the officer courageously gave;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Board of the Virginia Association Chiefs of Police has met with representatives from the Badge of Honor Memorial Foundation and reviewed the goals and objectives of the Foundation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Virginia Association Chiefs of Police commends the Badge of Honor Memorial Foundation for its efforts to prepare law enforcement leaders and agencies for the loss of an officer killed in the line of duty.

Chief J. Michael Yost, President
February 4, 2007