

# CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

## IN CITY COUNCIL

November 17, 2016

### **RESOLUTION HONORING CORPORAL PRISCILLA LOURO FONSECA ON THE OCCASION OF RECEIVING THE 2016 SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS VETERAN OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**WHEREAS**, Priscilla Louro Fonseca, a native of New Bedford, was born in November 1930, is the daughter of Manual and Rose (Peters) Louro, was educated in the New Bedford public school system and is a New Bedford High School graduate, Class of 1949; and

**WHEREAS**, Corporal Fonseca an active member of the New Bedford High School ROTC program, upon graduation, joined the United States Air Force in June 1949, as a Corporal in the Supply Division during the Korean War, beginning in Denver, Colorado, and transferring to the air base in Langley, Virginia, then upon returning home on leave she reconnected at St. John the Baptist Church with her high school friend and future husband Frank, who also served in the Army National Guard for over twenty-one years; and

**WHEREAS**, Priscilla and Frank married in February 1952, are the parents of four children, Dianne, Frank, Lorrie and Kathleen, have seven grandchildren and four great grandchildren; and

**WHEREAS**, Upon being honorably discharged, Corporal Fonseca moved back to her native New Bedford, entered Southeastern Massachusetts University, where she obtained her Bachelor of Arts and Masters of Arts degrees in History and Bicultural Studies, and began her teaching career both locally and at the American School in Milan, Italy; and

**WHEREAS**, Corporal Fonseca has been an active member of the Disabled American Veterans Association for the past thirty-two years, the American Legion, Moby Dick Post 459 for over thirty-three years, has served as Commander for District 9, as Adjutant for the New Bedford Veterans Council and currently serves as the Bristol County American Legion District A Chaplain, and was a leader in the development, fundraising and dedication of the New Bedford's Women's Veterans Memorial at Fort Taber Park; and

**WHEREAS**, Corporal Fonseca, a celebrity in our City, is well known for her New Bedford Cable Access program, Veterans Advocate, which for the past eighteen years has covered issues, educational opportunities and medical services available to returning Veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan; and

**WHEREAS**, Corporal Fonseca is greatly admired by her family, friends and fellow Veterans for her inner strength and independent nature, she is well liked, respected and is a strong role model for others in providing ongoing service to other Veterans in our Greater New Bedford Community; and

**WHEREAS**, Corporal Fonseca is the consummate Veteran giving back to the community, giving of herself not only to those fellow brothers and sisters who served our Country, but to those that she has come to know during the course of her many years in leadership positions in our area; it is this caring, compassionate service that has earned her the honor of being selected as the twenty-first recipient of the Southeastern Massachusetts Veteran of the Year Award:

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, That the New Bedford City Council congratulates **CORPORAL PRISCILLA LOURO FONSECA** for her years of service to her Country, her dedication, good deeds and service to the Greater New Bedford Community and extends congratulations on this occasion of being named the **2016 SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS VETERAN OF THE YEAR**.