

CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

IN CITY COUNCIL

November 15, 2018

**RESOLUTION HONORING US ARMY SPECIALIST CHRISTOPHER E. AZEVEDO
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RECEIVING THE
2018 SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS VETERAN OF THE YEAR AWARD**

WHEREAS, Christopher E. Azevedo, United States Army SPC, has been selected as the 2018 Southeastern Massachusetts Veteran of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Azevedo is the 23rd recipient of this award; and

WHEREAS, Christopher Azevedo the son of Zinada Eclleston and Antonio Azevedo, was born and raised in New Bedford, Massachusetts, graduated from Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School in 1988, and shortly thereafter left for active duty in the United States Navy, serving aboard the USS Vulcan; and

WHEREAS, Christopher E. Azevedo was deployed to Desert Storm, Active Navy, 1988-1991, Active Navy Reserve until 1993, and honorably discharged in 1994; and

WHEREAS, Christopher E. Azevedo became a Corrections Officer, working at Bay State Correctional, then the maximum security facility at Walpole, MCI Cedar Junction, where he ran the Plymouth 4 Gang Unit, he then served as a Firefighter with the City of New Bedford; and

WHEREAS, Following 9/11, Christopher E. Azevedo joined the Army National Guard from 2003-2006, as a Small Unit Operator in the elite 173rd Long-Range Surveillance Detachment and was on active duty with the 42nd Infantry Division which was deployed throughout Iraq during Operation Enduring Freedom; and

WHEREAS, While serving in Iraq, Christopher E. Azevedo ran full-spectrum Combat Operations and survived numerous attacks; and

WHEREAS, During his deployment, a direct hit to his vehicle left him with a traumatic brain injury, spine damage and multiple secondary medical issues; and

WHEREAS, After years of distinguished service, Christopher E. Azevedo was honorably discharged from the Army National Guard in 2008; and

WHEREAS, Upon his return home, Christopher E. Azevedo began to adjust to his combat-related medical issues and enrolled in college, graduating from Bristol Community College with two degrees, Health Sciences (with Honors) and obtaining a Math and Science transfer degree of General Studies (with Honors) and he is currently pursuing a Biology degree at Bristol Community College while working on a Psychology degree at UMASS Dartmouth, fulfilling Pre-Med requirements with hopes of becoming a doctor working with injured Veterans; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his education, Christopher E. Azevedo has decided to dedicate his life to serving the needs of his fellow Veterans and their families, mentoring them, providing them with support and counseling; and

WHEREAS, Christopher E. Azevedo will continue to be an advocate for Veterans, providing assistance, encouragement, educating Veterans on their rights and benefits; and

WHEREAS, On Thursday, November 08, 2018, Christopher E. Azevedo, Southeastern Massachusetts Veteran Of the Year, will be honored at a Luncheon at Rachel's Lakeside in Dartmouth, Massachusetts:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Council wishes to acknowledge **US ARMY SPECIALIST CHRISTOPHER E. AZEVEDO'S** selection as **THE 2018 SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS VETERAN OF THE YEAR**, in addition to the many well-deserved accolades he has received during his life, and wishes Christopher many years of continued success and happiness.

Given this 8th Day of November in the Year 2018.