

# State of Florida

## RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS** the Troopers of the Florida Highway Patrol daily demonstrate the core values of courtesy, service, and protection ensuring the safety and welfare of millions of Florida citizens and visitors; and

**WHEREAS** a Trooper, during his tenure, will encounter situations to distinguish himself through extraordinary bravery and quick action during the call of duty; and

**WHEREAS** Trooper Steven Turner graduated with the 143<sup>rd</sup> Patrol School and began his career with the Florida Highway Patrol in 2019 with Troop C in Pinellas County before being transferred to Pasco County, where he also serves as a field training officer; and

**WHEREAS** on February 4, 2023, Trooper Turner responded to the Interstate 75 and Overpass Road area in Pasco County regarding an active pursuit of burglary suspects driving a stolen Ford F-250; and

**WHEREAS** during the pursuit, one of the suspects in the stolen vehicle discharged a firearm at passing motorists, including a fully loaded fuel tanker, placing not only responding troopers in harm's way but also innocent motorists; and

**WHEREAS** Trooper Turner joined the pursuit after locating the suspects traveling south on Interstate 75 as they approached Overpass Road in Pasco County; and

**WHEREAS** the suspects, trying to evade the pursuit, exited Interstate 75; and

**WHEREAS** Trooper Turner, employing extensive training and expertise, successfully initiated a Precision Immobilization Technique (P.I.T.), rendering the suspect's vehicle inoperative; and

**WHEREAS** both suspects exited the vehicle and fled on foot; and

**WHEREAS** Trooper Turner, recognizing the enhanced threat to public safety by one of the suspects who had discharged a firearm into passing vehicles during the vehicle pursuit, fearlessly continued the pursuit of the potentially armed suspect on foot into a heavily wooded area; and

**WHEREAS** Trooper Turner, while attempting to apprehend the suspect, was struck in the abdomen when the suspect discharged his firearm at Trooper Turner; and

**WHEREAS** Trooper Turner, maintaining concentration and fortitude, neutralized any additional threat to the public posed by the suspect before retreating from the wooded area where he received aid for his gunshot wound from fellow troopers before being airlifted to a trauma center to treat the life-threatening injuries; and

**WHEREAS** Trooper Turner displayed the highest level of bravery, gallantry, and courage by engaging in a dangerous pursuit of armed felons, exposing him to great peril and personal danger while protecting the citizens and visitors of Florida.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Governor and the Cabinet of the State of Florida do hereby recognize and commend

### **Trooper Steven Turner 2024 Trooper of the Year**

for his heroic and selfless actions in service and protection leading to the safety and welfare of the citizens and visitors of Florida.

**WHEREFORE**, the Governor and Cabinet of the State of Florida have hereunto subscribed their names and have caused the Official Seal of the State of Florida to be hereunto affixed in the City of Tallahassee this 13<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2024.



  
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**RON DESANTIS**  
GOVERNOR

  
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**ASHLEY MOODY**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

  
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**JIMMY PATRONIS**  
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

  
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**WILTON SIMPSON**  
COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE