

RESOLUTION FOR TROOPER CLARENCE L. SWARTZ

WHEREAS, Clarence Luther Swartz was born on September 6, 1927 in Washington, DC and joined the Merchant Marines at the age of 16 during World War II where he served for two years; and

WHEREAS, in 1947 Mr. Swartz became a Driver's License Examiner for the State of North Carolina and four years later he became one of four State Troopers assigned to New Hanover County at that time; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Swartz worked as a productive member of the North Carolina State Highway Patrol for 25 years, all of which he was stationed in New Hanover County; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Swartz became widely known for his passion for teaching and counseling young teens in the community and spent much of his career and time during retirement mentoring youth and young troopers. Trooper Swartz was always fair and professional with the public and prided himself on knowing that during his tenure as a Trooper, there was not one single teenage fatality on Oleander Drive. Trooper Swartz was nicknamed the "Oleander Ranger"; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Swartz was recognized for countless arrests including the capture of Charles "Yank" Stewart, infamous for leading the largest prison escape in North Carolina history; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Swartz retired on October 26, 1976 but continued to serve the Wilmington/Wrightsville Beach community; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Swartz was a resident of New Hanover County and a pillar of the community from 1947 until his death in 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Wilmington City Council requests to name the bridge over Bradley Creek in Wilmington in memory of Trooper Clarence Luther Swartz.


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the North Carolina Board of Transportation names the bridge over Bradley Creek on Oleander Drive in Wilmington as the *Trooper Clarence L. Swartz Bridge*.

That appropriate signs be erected at a suitable time.

Adopted, this the fifth day of November 2015 by the North Carolina Board of Transportation.


Chairman


Secretary of Transportation