

**SENSE OF THE BOARD RESOLUTION  
HONORING JAMES DOCKERY FOR HIS  
EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE AND HEROISM**

**WHEREAS**, upon the United States' entry into World War II, James Dockery voluntarily enlisted in the United States Navy at the age of 35 and was assigned to the USS Intrepid, one of the most distinguished ships in American history; and

**WHEREAS**, during a time when the United States military maintained racially segregated units, Mr. Dockery was among a group of Black sailors trained to operate a 20mm anti-aircraft gun aboard the USS Intrepid, forming what became known as "Gun Tub 10"; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 29, 1944, during the Battle of Leyte Gulf, the USS Intrepid came under attack by a Japanese kamikaze aircraft, and while facing imminent danger, the courageous men of Gun Tub 10 remained at their station and successfully disabled the aircraft before it struck the ship directly, saving countless lives aboard the vessel; and

**WHEREAS**, the crashing aircraft exploded into Gun Tub 10, killing ten sailors and severely injuring six others, including Mr. Dockery, whose extraordinary valor and devotion to duty helped save the USS Intrepid from catastrophic destruction; and

**WHEREAS**, although the surviving members of Gun Tub 10 were originally recommended for the Navy Cross, the nation's second-highest military decoration for valor, the award was unjustly downgraded until decades later, when a federal court ordered the Navy to correct the injustice; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 5, 1994, James Dockery stood aboard the USS Intrepid and was formally awarded the Navy Cross in a long-overdue ceremony honoring his courage, sacrifice, and service to the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Dockery returned home to Stamford, raised a family, worked at Perkin-Elmer in Norwalk, and lived a life defined by humility, faith, and quiet service to his community until his passing in 1996.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the 32<sup>nd</sup> Board of Representatives hereby honors the life, heroism, and legacy of James Dockery as an extraordinary American patriot and a distinguished member of the Stamford community, whose courage and perseverance exemplified the highest ideals of the United States of America.

***Approved by the 32<sup>nd</sup> Board of Representatives  
this 1<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2026***

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Ramya Shaw, President

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Parker Johnson, Clerk