News Release

June 14, 2019
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Honoring Ashland Police Officer Malcus Williams II

Legislature passes resolution recognizing and honoring a life of service

SALEM – This week the Oregon Legislature passed HCR 24, honoring the life and service of Ashland Police Officer Malcus Williams II. Officer Williams was born in Eugene in 1966. He attended Southern Oregon State College (now Southern Oregon University) in Ashland, Oregon, where he played football and met his future wife, Ona. The two were married in 1990 and raised three children together, Savannah, Georgia, and Brooklyn.

Officer Williams was sworn in as a full-time officer of the Ashland Police Department in 1996 and served with distinction for 21 years, always ready to step up and help both on and off duty. He was beloved by his community. "His wisdom, sense of humor and genuine respect for everyone he met made him a magnificent officer," said Sen. Jeff Golden (D-03), "And his off-duty commitment to the activities of kids, his own and others, was prodigious." "I remember when the Ashland library closed," said Rep. Pam Marsh (D-05). "Officer Williams was called to address a protest being staged by a group of children. Officer Williams arrived, read them *Leonardo the Terrible Monster*, and then gently escorted them out. And when the library reopened six months later, Malcus was right there to lead a parade of those same kids back in, hand in hand."

Officer Williams died in the line of duty on March 2, 2018. He was posthumously awarded the State of Oregon's Law Enforcement Medal of Ultimate Sacrifice. HCR 24 will commemorate Officer William's exceptional service and character. Ona and Brooklyn were able to be on the Senate floor for the final passage of the resolution and Brooklyn sang the invocation. Officer Malcus Williams touched the lives of many, and he is greatly missed by his family, friends, colleagues and community.

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