IN THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE OF JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI

A RESOLUTION honoring Colonel Hugh L. Mills, Jr., on the occasion of his induction into the Arkansas Walk of Fame.

RESOLUTION NO. 18140, April 8, 2013

INTRODUCED BY Theresa Garza Ruiz, Crystal Williams, Fred Arbanas, Scott Burnett, James D. Tindall, Dennis Waits, Dan Tarwater, Greg Grounds, and Bob Spence, County Legislators

WHEREAS, Colonel Hugh L. Mills, Jr., Undersheriff of the Sheriff's Office, has been honored with induction into the Arkansas Walk of Fame, located in the heart of historic downtown Hot Springs, Arkansas; and,

WHEREAS Col. Mills graduated from Hot Springs, Arkansas High School in 1966 and went on to become one of the most decorated helicopter pilots during the Vietnam War, serving two tours of duty, one as commander of an aero-scout platoon and another as commander of an aero weapons platoon; and,

WHEREAS, during his 26-year career as a combat aviator, Col. Mills was shot down 16 times and wounded three times, and he earned numerous decorations for valor, including three Silver Stars, the Legion of Merit, six Distinguished Flying Crosses, three Meritorious Service Medals, three Purple Hearts, and three Bronze Stars; and,

WHEREAS, the government of Vietnam awarded Col. Mills the Cross of Gallantry with Silver Star and Palm, the Vietnamese Honor Medal First Class, and the Civic Action

Honor Medal First Class; and,

WHEREAS, Col. Mills is credited by the Army Safety Center with the development of a pilot technique to correct the OH-6 Cayuse "Hughes Tail Spin," which had killed numerous aviators; and,

WHEREAS, Col. Mills lead air cavalry raids into Laos, Cambodia, and North Vietnam, commanding the Army's first night-attack helicopter unit with crude night vision systems, and he was the first Army pilot to test the XM-8 40mm grenade launcher in combat; and,

WHEREAS, Col. Mills graduated from the Kansas City Regional Police Academy in 1982 and worked with the Kansas City Police Department as a helicopter pilot and Reserve Sergeant while continuing to serve in the military; and,

WHEREAS, upon his retirement from the military, Col. Mills became the Director of Security and, later, the Director of General Services for Worlds of Fun before joining the Jackson County Sheriff's Office under Sheriff Mike Sharp; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the County Legislature of Jackson County, Missouri, that the Legislature congratulates Colonel Hugh L. Mills, Jr., on the occasion of his induction into the Arkansas Walk of Fame.