

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, until April 1, 2009, the DeKalb County Police Department provided police services to what is now the City of Dunwoody; and

WHEREAS, as part of the police services provided, DeKalb County police officers served the Dunwoody area honorably placing their lives in jeopardy each and every day; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, 202 police officers died in the line of duty across the United States; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, 9 police officers died in the line of duty in the State of Georgia; and

WHEREAS, Officer Thomas S. Atkisson of the DeKalb County Police Department was responsible for patrol of what is now the City of Dunwoody on December 14, 1976; and

WHEREAS, Officer Atkisson observed a speeding motorcycle traveling northbound on Ashford Dunwoody Road; and

WHEREAS, Officer Atkisson lost control of his police vehicle while attempting to catch up to the speeding motorcycle and struck a traffic light pole head-on in the center median of Ashford Dunwoody Road and Perimeter Center West; and

WHEREAS, upon striking this traffic light pole the police vehicle overturned and Officer Atkisson was killed instantly; and

WHEREAS, the DeKalb County Police Department has had 30 police officers killed in the line of duty since the formation of the department on December 18, 1915; and

WHEREAS, Officer Atkisson was the 17th officer to die in the line of duty while in the service of the DeKalb County Police Department, the people of DeKalb County, and the people of Dunwoody; and

WHEREAS, Officer Atkisson is the only police officer to die in the line of duty in the area now incorporated as the City of Dunwoody; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Dunwoody Police Department and the Mayor and City Council of Dunwoody desire to recognize and remember the sacrifice of Officer Atkisson and his service to the citizens of DeKalb County and the City of Dunwoody; and

WHEREAS, December 14, 2016, is the 40th Anniversary of the death of Officer Atkisson.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Mayor and City Council of Dunwoody desire to perpetually honor Officer Atkisson’s ultimate sacrifice by identifying the intersection of Ashford Dunwoody Road and Perimeter Center West as the **Thomas S. Atkisson Memorial Intersection**.

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that the Mayor and City Council have erected a sign at the stated intersection for this recognition and for all citizens of Dunwoody to see.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Dunwoody, Georgia, to be affixed, this 12th day of December 2016.

City of Dunwoody

Denis L. Shortal, Mayor

Attest:

Sharon Lowery, City Clerk