## HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

1 Historic Courthouse Square, Suite 1 Hendersonville, North Carolina 28792-5097 Phone: 828-697-4808 · Fax: 828-692-9855 www.hendersoncountync.org

CHARLIE MESSER Chairman THOMAS H. THOMPSON Vice Chairman J. MICHAEL EDNEY GRADY HAWKINS LARRY YOUNG

## RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE RELEASE OF SGT. ANDREW TAHMOORESSI BY THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO

WHEREAS,	25-year-old United States Marine Sgt. Andrew Tahmooressi served two tours of duty in Afghanistan; and
WHEREAS,	Sgt. Tahmooressi received a meritorious battle promotion to Sergeant while serving in Afghanistan's Helm and province with 2nd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment; and
WHEREAS,	Sgt. Tahmooressi is a member of the Individual Ready Reserve and received an "Order to Muster" letter on May 9 requiring him to report to the 4th Civil Affairs Group on June 14; and
WHEREAS,	Sgt. Tahmooressi was arrested at the United States-Mexican border on March 31, 2014; and
WHEREAS,	Sgt. Tahmooressi's vehicle included three firearms legally registered in his name in the United States; and
WHEREAS,	Sgt. Tahmooressi due to road and checkpoint closures crossed into Mexico inadvertently; and
WHEREAS,	Sgt. Tahmooressi was incarcerated and is still being held in the El Hongo II prison in Tecate, Mexico; and
WHEREAS,	Sgt. Tahmooressi was diagnosed with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) following his service to the United States Marine Corps in Afghanistan; and
WHEREAS,	Sgt. Tahmooressi's immediate release would allow him to enroll in medical treatment at a clinic specializing in combat-related PTSD in the United States; and
WHEREAS,	Sgt. Tahmooressi is neither a criminal nor a weapons trafficker; and

**NOW, THEREFORE,** be it resolved that the Board of Commissioners of Henderson County urges:

- (1) That the Government of Mexico immediately releases United States Marine Sgt. Andrew Tahmooressi and provides for his swift return to the United States; and
- (2) That the President of the United States immediately utilizes the full powers and authorities of his office and the executive branch of the United States government to immediately secure the release of United States Marine Sgt. Andrew Tahmooressi.

The Clerk to the Board of Commissioners shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, each member of the North Carolina Congressional Delegation, the United States Department of State, the United States Department of Defense, and each county in North Carolina.

This the 2nd day of September, 2014.

Charles D. Messer, Chairman

Henderson County Board of Commissioners

Attest:

Teresa L. Wilson, Clerk to the Board