



Legislation Text

File #: Res 1895-2013, Version: *

Res. No. 1895

Resolution expressing regret over the manner in which the body of Kevin Bell was treated by an employee of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner after his tragic death in Woodlawn on June 16, 2013.

By Council Members Koppell, Arroyo, Chin, Comrie, Gentile, James, Mendez, Palma, Rose and Rodriguez

Whereas, Kevin Bell was from Newry, County Down, Ireland and was the beloved son of Collie and Eithne and cherished brother of Brendan, Sean, Ciara, Eamon, Conor and Maeve; and

Whereas, Mr. Bell was a well-known butcher in William Baird's of Newry before traveling to New York City; and

Whereas, He was a champion Irish dancer who, along with family members, represented the St. Moninna's Gaelic Athletic Club, Killeavy, for many years in the Scór competitions; and

Whereas, Dominic Bradley, a Social Democratic and Labour Party Assembly Member for Newry and Armagh, said, "Kevin was an exceptional young man who brought joy and happiness to his family and to all who knew him"; and

Whereas, Assembly Member Bradley also stated that "he had a great sense of fun and it was a pleasure to be in his company as anyone who knew him will testify"; and

Whereas, Tragically, on June 16, 2013, Mr. Bell was the victim of a fatal hit-and-run in the Woodlawn area of the Bronx; and

Whereas, Pictures after the incident show the body of the deceased being placed into a New York City Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) vehicle along with bags of empty bottles; and

Whereas, This shocking lack of respect for a newly departed person is unacceptable; and

Whereas, The deceased in our city deserve to be treated with dignity and nothing less; and

Whereas, This incident demonstrated unprofessionalism and insensitivity by a staff member of the OCME, a nationally recognized office; and

Whereas, Mr. Bell was well known and much loved both in Ireland and in New York, with hundreds in attendance at a vigil at the accident site and at a memorial service for him at St. Barnabas Church in Woodlawn, the Bronx; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York expresses regret over the manner in which the body of Kevin Bell was treated by an employee of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner after his tragic death in Woodlawn on June 16, 2013.

CGP
8/13/13
LS #4915