



# Press Release

**JANET L. DUPREY**

Member of Assembly

115th Assembly District

For Immediate Release  
June 16, 2016  
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## **DEPUTY SHERIFF BEATS CYSTIC FIBROSIS, LEGISLATION HELPS HIM GET BACK TO WORK**

*\*\*Editor's note – [click here to watch](#) Assemblywoman Duprey introduce Deputy Sheriff Aaron Heroux on the Assembly Floor*



*(Left to Right; front row) Major Michael Reid, Assemblywoman Janet Duprey, Deputy Sheriff Aaron Heroux, Victoria Heroux, and Sgt. William Dominy, (Left to Right; back row) Sheriff David Favro and Lt. Nicholas Leon.*

This week, Assemblywoman Janet Duprey (R,I-Peru) and Sen. Betty Little (R,C,I-Queensbury) passed legislation that authorizes Clinton County to reinstate Aaron Heroux as a deputy sheriff. Heroux served as a deputy sheriff from March 2002 until February 2013, when he was forced to apply for disability retirement due to health problems related to Cystic Fibrosis.

On February 8, 2014, Heroux received a bilateral lung transplant at Massachusetts General Hospital. The hospital's medical director and surgeon have certified that Heroux is able to return to work without any restrictions. He is living proof of the value of organ donations.

Duprey introduced Heroux in the Assembly Chamber saying, "Heroux stands as a shining example of inspiration to those fighting genetic diseases. His personal determination and desire to live his life to the fullest beat all medical expectations. He has returned to full health and physical condition, and is able to play ice hockey."

Rather than continue with his guaranteed permanent disability benefits, Heroux asked to be reinstated as deputy sheriff. According to New York State Civil Service Law, however, Heroux could not return to work because he is over 35 years old. [Assembly Bill 10226](#) and [Senate Bill 7564](#) allow this dedicated civil servant to return to his position as deputy sheriff. The Clinton County Legislature recently adopted a Home Rule resolution in support of the Senate and Assembly legislation. Accompanying Heroux to Albany were his strongest supporters, his wife Victoria, Sheriff David Favro, Major Michael Reid, Lt. Nicholas Leon and Sgt. William Dominy.

Sen. Little said, "Aaron Heroux's determination to conquer Cystic Fibrosis is an inspiration to anyone who is confronting a health issue. His positive attitude and desire to recover from a bilateral lung transplant in order to return to work as a Clinton County deputy sheriff epitomizes the highest standard of a dedicated public servant."

Duprey said, "What a proud moment for me that my final introduction and bill in the Assembly are in recognition of Aaron Heroux. Instead of sitting home and being paid for doing nothing, he wants to go back to work in a position that he loves and does very well. His courage is remarkable, and I wish him the best as he returns to work for the Clinton County Sheriff's Department."

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