NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
October 8-9, 2025
Indianapolis, Indiana

Resolution No. 2: Medal of Honor for Michael Ollis
Origin: Resolution No. 35 (NY) 2025 National Convention
Submitted by: National Security Commission

WHEREAS, United States Army Staff Sgt. Michael Ollis was killed in action while protecting his troops and shielding a Polish soldier from a suicide bomber on Aug. 28, 2013, in Ghazni province, Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sgt. Michael Ollis acted with utter fearlessness, intrepidity of the highest order and a willingness to sacrifice his own life so that his fellow soldiers on Forward Operating Base Ghazni could move to bunkers to shield themselves from fire; and

WHEREAS, During a massive attack that began when a car bomb breached the base's eastern perimeter wall and allowed ten insurgents in suicide bomber vests to infiltrate the compound; and

WHEREAS, After linking up with other friendlies Staff Sgt. Michael Ollis joined the fight to repulse the insurgents who had breached their defenses, all while under continuous small arms, indirect, and rocket-propelled grenade fire; and

WHEREAS, The selfless actions of Staff Sgt. Michael Ollis, by closing and engaging with the enemy at close range, diverted enemy fire away from the Task Force Copperhead compound; and

WHEREAS, This diversion provided a window of opportunity for forty-one civilian contractor personnel to egress West to a secure area away from the line of fire; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Michael Ollis' actions directly resulted in the lives of the contractor personnel being saved; and

WHEREAS, During the fight, an insurgent with a suicide bomber vest rounded a corner and began advancing on them while shooting; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sgt. Michael Ollis, without body armor, put himself between the insurgent and an allied Polish Army officer, Lt. Karol Cierpica, who had been wounded in both legs and was unable to walk; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sgt. Michael Ollis fired on the insurgent and incapacitated him; and

WHEREAS, After stopping the advance he approached the insurgent and the insurgent's suicide vest detonated mortally wounding Staff Sgt. Michael Ollis; and

WHEREAS, Official accounts cite that countless U.S. and Coalition Force personnel were affected through the selfless actions of one individual, Staff Sgt. Michael Ollis; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sgt. Michael Ollis was recognized by receiving the Silver Star for his actions, which was subsequently upgraded to the Distinguished Service Cross, the second-highest military honor that can be awarded to a U.S. soldier; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sgt. Michael Ollis' actions are commensurate with those of other Medal of Honor recipients who have shown utter fearlessness, intrepidity of the highest order and a willingness to sacrifice their own life so that their comrades could go on to victory; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 8–9, 2025, That Staff Sgt. Michael Ollis be presented the Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be forwarded to President Donald J. Trump, the Secretary of the Army Daniel Driscoll, Congresswoman Nicole Malliotakis, Senator Charles Schumer and Senator Kirsten Gillibrand for action and support.