



# City of Pittsburgh

510 City-County Building  
414 Grant Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

## Text File

**Introduced:** 4/8/2014

**Bill No:** 2014-0316, **Version:** 1

**Committee:** City Council

**Status:** Passed Finally

**WHEREAS**, on Saturday March 22<sup>nd</sup>, **William Poleski** and his girlfriend, **Jessie Ryan**, noticed that a pit bull had been left stranded on a second story porch, without food, water, or blankets for two days; and

**WHEREAS**, **William** and **Jessie** felt sympathy for the suffering animal and decided to take action. They tossed food up onto the porch and tried to locate the dog's owner before calling 911 at approximately 7:00 PM. After being told by a 911 operator that nobody was available for dispatch and that they should wait until Sunday morning to call the Animal Care and Control Department, the couple didn't give up and decided to call their good friend John Sibbet, who then relayed the message along to Councilwoman Darlene Harris; and

**WHEREAS**, Councilwoman Harris made several more calls to 911, before calling Fire Station # 6 directly to see if anyone was available to help. Captain Michael Halligan, Lieutenant Michael Fuerst, and Firefighter Brian Kosanovich responded to the scene. They were joined by Zone 2 police officers Ryan S. Elliott, Brittany Miles, and Chris Rosato; and

**WHEREAS**, with the help of **William** and **Jessie** who provided a ladder, the responding firefighters and officers were able to bring the dog down, who had been stranded for more than two days, and get him to the Animal Rescue League to be sheltered and cared for; and

**WHEREAS**, **William Poleski** and **Jessie Ryan** remained diligent and did everything that they could to save this dog. If they had chosen to give up after calling 911, the dog may not have survived without food or water through the cold night, when wind-chill temperatures reached single digits; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby recognize and honor **William Poleski**, **Jessie Ryan**, John Sibbet, the Animal Rescue League, and all of the Pittsburgh Police Officers and Firefighters that helped rescue the stranded pit bull; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare Tuesday, April 8, 2014 to be "**William Poleski and Jessie Ryan Day**" in the City of Pittsburgh.