Resolution No. 215 September 20, 2011

Requesting Cooperation From New York State Office Of Alcohol And Substance Abuse In Ascertaining Information Relating To The Safety, Security And Appropriate Operating Practices Of The Renaissance Project (Ellenville, NY) Drug And Substance Abuse Rehabilitation Center

Legislator Hayes, Chairman of The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairman Hayes and Legislators Belfiglio, Ronk, Sweeney, Briggs, Hochberg and Rodriguez) and Co-Sponsors: The Governmental Services and Administration Committee (Chairman Roberts and Legislators Belfiglio, Fabiano, Ronk, Robert Parete, Madsen and Rodriguez) offer the following:

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee has attempted to obtain copies of investigations conducted by NYS Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse regarding the homicide and assault which took place at the Renaissance Project, Ellenville, NY, on October 6, 2010, and

WHEREAS, the Committee has not received a response from New York State Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse and the Committee has also requested Governor Andrew Cuomo assist in having NYS Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse forward reports to the committee, and there has been no response from the Governor's Office, and

WHEREAS, New York State has failed to cooperate with the Ulster County Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee on the subject of the safe and secure operation of "the Renaissance Project alternate to incarceration facility in Ulster County," and

WHEREAS, the families and friends of Lee Wood and Keri Williams deserve to know the circumstances of the operation of the Renaissance Project in Ellenville that lead to fatal and vicious attacks on their loved ones, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Wawarsing government needs to be assured that the Renaissance Project is being operated in a safe and secure manner, and

WHEREAS, the people of Ulster County and New York State need to know the sentencing guidelines related to placement of accused criminals in alternate to incarceration facilities and are being adhered to and "Dangerous Criminals" are not being placed in insecure facilities solely because it is an inexpensive alternate to being sent to prison, and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee has been patient in its attempts to obtain information to research the operations of New York State Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Alternative to Incarceration Facilities in Ulster County and the lack of response from this New

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York State office is unacceptable, disrespectful and not conducive to County-State collaboration regarding the care and treatment of individuals who have entered the Criminal Justice System and been identified substance abusers, and

WHEREAS, the Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee has met and reviewed said request with a majority of the members voting approval, and

WHEREAS, the Governmental Services and Administration Committee has met and reviewed said request with a majority of the members voting approval, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislative body strongly and sincerely solicits the cooperation of the New York State Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse in furtherance of Ulster County's Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee's investigative review of an incident of a homicide and assault at the Renaissance Project (Ellenville, NY) which facility acts as an agent/contractor of said State agency,

and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 29 NOES: 0

(Absent: Legislators Frey, Gerentine, Petit and

Stoeckeler)

FINANCIAL IMPACT: NONE

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STATE OF NEW YORK

ss:

COUNTY OF ULSTER

This is to certify that I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Ulster have compared the foregoing resolution with the original resolution now on file in the office of said clerk, and which was adopted by said Legislature on the 20th day of September, 2011, and that the same is a true and correct transcript of said resolution and of the whole thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the County of Ulster this 21st Day of September in the year Two Thousand and Eleven.

|s| Karen L. Binder Karen L. Binder, Clerk Ulster County Legislature