



**City of
Ipswich**

- **Condolence Motion**
Attachment 1 Condolence Motion - Stacey Kirmos3

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CONDOLENCE MOTION – EFSTATHIOS ‘STACEY’ KIRMOS

30 OCTOBER 2025

That Council convey condolences, on behalf of the citizens of the City of Ipswich, to the family of the late Efstathios ‘Stacey’ Kirmos who passed away on

On Tuesday the 30th of September 2025, Efstathios Kirmos, known to many of us as Stacey Kirmos, passed away after a tragic accident whilst training at his Benowa Karate Dojo at the age of 74.

To say that Stacey packed a lot into his life would be an understatement. He was full-on and all the time. A Husband, Father, Brother and friend to many, karate was just another of his loves and devotions. A 6th Dan Black Belt, Stacey continued to practice, train and commit himself to the art all his life. It was a passion that he shared with many others and his feats in this space alone would fill the lifetime of any other person.

But in many cases Stacey lived the equivalent of many lifetimes.

Those that ever met him would be won over by his knowledge, confidence, charm and charisma. Maybe it was his Greek heritage. Maybe it was his action-packed life. Maybe it was the perfect recipe of all those ingredients. Despite it all, it was his humility and humbleness. In short, for Stacey, he was more interested in talking to you.

A decorated Queensland Police Officer he received international recognition for his rescue of a drowning man in raging floodwaters during the 1974 floods.

As a covert operative, working undercover for many days, weeks and months at a time when support networks for operatives was minimal at best, Stacey successfully infiltrated and brought down numerous underworld and organised crime figures involved in matters from drugs to gun-running. So successful, he became known as Queensland’s Serpico – a nod to crime-busting New York police detective Frank Serpico.

Such was his impact as a Police Officer that no-less than retired Police Commissioner, Bob Atkinson spoke at his funeral.

After leaving the QPS, Stacey started in security and ultimately it was this talent that brought him to Ipswich.

At a time when social disorder and the perception of fear risked the reputation of Central Ipswich, Council made the decision to support two initiatives within the CBD.

One was to establish a permanent police beat office in the Ipswich Mall, and the second was to engage Stacey Kirmos to implement a fulltime live-monitored Closed Circuit TV Security Camera system within the Beat Office and covering the central trading area in and around the Ipswich Mall.

The Ipswich Safe-City Network began with approximately 20 surveillance cameras and a dedicated team of monitoring staff. Among them was Larry Waite, a founding member who has been with the program since its inception and now serves as its manager. Operations initially took place in a room no larger than a small bedroom.

The program now boasts some 360 cameras, covering Ipswich Central and many other suburbs, parks and public spaces. It remains monitored full-time and focused on public safety.

Ipswich is recognised across the globe as a leader in public safety CCTV networks and that recognition is all because of the work, efforts and passion of Stacey Kirmos.

I had the pleasure and honour of working with Stacey on both sides of camera.

Firstly, as a police officer and later as councillor. In the first instance, I was fortunate to have been tasked with introduction, implementation and initial operation of the Ipswich Police Beat when it opened and therefore witnessed firsthand how the Safe-City program could assist in public safety, but also in the identification, detection and apprehension of crime.

Then, as a councillor from 2000, I had the good fortune to work with Stacey through Safe-City but to also witness his efforts to expand and perfect the program.

Stacey could handle the politics of council and police with aplomb. He could also back up all his claims with facts and figures, all derived from Safe-City. A reason why he was also so effective in obtaining grants to further grow the program.

And grow the program he did, into one of the world's leading public safety CCTV networks. Stacey hosted visiting luminaries, crime-fighting and law enforcement representatives, both nationally and internationally, showcasing the worth and the effectiveness of the Safe-City program. Representatives from Scotland Yard and the Home Office of the UK have been among the many law enforcement agencies from across the nation and the globe who have visited the Safe-City centre.

Safe-City has kept data since its inception and many thousands of street offences and crimes may have been detected in its time, but it had always been the offences deterred and the interventions by security and police ensuring no-one was seriously hurt, that always motivated Stacey in his role. Your safety was his priority.

In 2009, Stacey moved on to serve other communities with similar programs, taking the success of Safe-City with him wherever he went.

Ipswich should retain a special place in its heart for Stacey Kirmos and I would go as far as proposing that this council should consider honouring Stacey with some form of recognition within the Safe-City program itself, however I will leave that for a future discussion.

I take this opportunity to pass on my most sincere condolences to Stacey's family and thank them for allowing Stacey to share some of his life with us. It was impactful, inspiring and much appreciated.

Vale Stacey Kirmos. Rest in peace fellow brother-in-blue.