

VOTE  

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6/11/19

**TESTIMONIAL  
RESOLUTIONS  
AND SPECIAL  
PRIVILEGE**

## Testimonial Resolution

84

## GREATER ST. PAUL BAPTIST CHURCH

40<sup>TH</sup> Church Anniversary

- WHEREAS** With humble beginnings and a deeply rooted commitment to growing the body of Christ, **Greater St. Paul Baptist Church** is celebrating 40 years of service in the City of Detroit; **and**
- WHEREAS** Greater St. Paul Baptist Church started as a vision given to Reverend Ricardo Bartlett, Sr. and was launched in 1979. The first charter members included families such as: the Bartletts, Burns, Harris, Howze and Means. The first service was officially conducted on Sunday, February 19, 1979 at 2431 East Grand Boulevard in Detroit; **and**
- WHEREAS** Greater St. Paul Baptist Church by September 1979 under the leadership of Pastor Bartlett the church raised over sixty-five thousand dollars and purchased 7203 East Harper in Detroit. More blessings were poured over the congregation as the church started ministering to the Harper-Frontenac community. They started outreach projects such as the Senior Citizens Meal Program, a Food Co-op, a Senior Citizens Recreational Program, Youth-Oriented ministries, a Radio Broadcast, and a Community Fun Festival and Carnival; **and**
- WHEREAS** Greater St. Paul Church grew spiritually and in membership. On Sunday, November 11, 1984 the congregation was led to their new church home at 17300 Chandler Park Drive where the ministry continued. Currently the church is located at 15325 Gratiot Avenue. They have been there since Sunday, May 2, 1999. Their membership increased to over one thousand faithful citizens; **and**
- WHEREAS** Greater St. Paul Church under the leadership of Reverend Ricardo Bartlett, Sr. created ministries to address the needs of the community and congregation while located on Gratiot Avenue. They have Christian Education, a Child Development Center for ages six weeks to 5 years, Michigan School Readiness for four year olds, a Radio Broadcast, Tutoring services, Youth Ministry, Giving Tree, Foreign Missions for Africa, Macomb Montessori Academy, and Substance Abuse and Crisis Management; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**
- RESOLVED** That the Office of Councilman Scott Benson and Detroit City Council congratulates Greater St. Paul Baptist Church on your 40<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary. May God continue to bless your endeavors as you work to grow the body of Christ.

*Mary Sheffield*  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM

*Sam L. Brown*  
COUNCIL MEMBER

*Scott Benson*  
COUNCIL MEMBER

*Raquel Castañeda-López*  
COUNCIL MEMBER

*Brenda Jones*  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

*Dale G. Lewis*  
COUNCIL MEMBER

COUNCIL MEMBER

COUNCIL MEMBER

COUNCIL MEMBER

June 8, 2019

DATE

## Testimonial Resolution

## Douglas J. Diggs

In Memoriam

85

CITY CLERK 2019 JUNE 10 12:25

## WHEREAS

Douglas Jackson Diggs was born in Detroit in 1964 to Anna Diggs Taylor, the state's first African American female federal judge, and Charles C. Diggs Jr., who became the first African American elected to Congress from Michigan. His stepfather, S. Martin Taylor, former head of New Detroit and later, Vice President at DTE Energy was a prominent and caring figure in his life. Diggs credits all his parents for his work ethic and his sense of civic responsibility that became his way of life; **and**

## WHEREAS

Douglas Diggs graduated from the University of Detroit High School and Wayne State University. He also received his Masters of Business Administration from Davenport University. Throughout his career he was focused on growing the economy of Detroit. He served as Detroit's Planning and Development Director and was Director of Business and Economic Development for Detroit Renaissance; **and**

## WHEREAS

Douglas Diggs was the catalyst for a variety of programs to boost minority business development in the City including the Detroit Community Loan Fund, Michigan Statewide Minority Business Development Center and the Detroit Entrepreneurship Institute. Most recently, he was responsible for creating and implementing the Business and Workforce Participation and Outreach Plan for the Little Caesars Arena and The District Detroit to ensure that Detroit businesses and residents participate in the construction of the project; **and**

## WHEREAS

Douglas Diggs was the President and CEO of the Diggs Group Heritage developed and implemented numerous economic development projects in the city. More important to him was the work he did to create workforce opportunities for Detroit residents. He loved Detroit and saw it as his mission to create opportunities for minority businesses to engage and thrive in the city's growth; **and**

## WHEREAS

Douglas Diggs was a devoted husband and father. He married the love of his life Dr. Shauna Ryder Diggs. This union was blessed with two daughters; Jaqueline Exyie Diggs and Alexandra Anna Diggs; **THEREFORE, BE IT**

## RESOLVED

**That the Office of Councilman Scott Benson and Detroit City Council** expresses their deepest condolences and share their sympathy in the loss of your loved one, **Douglas J. Diggs**. Your loss is heaven's gain. May God bless you and comfort you during this time and always.

*Mary Sheffield*  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM  
*Janiceé Boy*  
COUNCIL MEMBER  
*Scott Benson*  
COUNCIL MEMBER  
*Raquel Castañeda-López*  
COUNCIL MEMBER

*Brenda Jones*  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

*Duke Ralston*  
COUNCIL MEMBER  
*Arden Spivey*  
COUNCIL MEMBER  
*Scott Benson*  
COUNCIL MEMBER

May 25, 2019

DATE

# Testimonial Resolution

86

CITY CLERK 2019 JUN 4 PM 2:00

## Eastside Church of God

### "100<sup>th</sup> Year Celebration."

**WHEREAS:** On the first Sunday in June 1919, the first service for **EASTSIDE Church Of God** was held in a small storefront at the corner of Clinton and Rivard street, in Detroit, Michigan. Membership consisted of **Elder and Sister Theophilis Dickerson McGhee**, their daughter Emma, the Reverends J.Z. and Minnie Stewart, Brother and Sister Bruce Davis (The Original seven); **AND**

**WHEREAS:** In four and one-half years, the Lord added to the church and a larger building would be needed. In 1924, **EASTSIDE Church Of God** moved to the corner of Mullet and Orleans, where many souls found the Lord. Children were born to families, grew up, and found their mates and married there. Far as it is known, Sister Marion K. Lane is the only remaining member from this location on Mullett and Orleans St. The other two members were Sister Janie Hair and Sister Lucille Kelly, who have gone on to be with Lord; **AND**

**WHEREAS:** In 1929-1930, there was a great depression in the land; during this time, the church grew stronger in the faith. Unable to depend on worldly possessions, **EASTSIDE Church Of God** stood firm. As the neighborhood began to change, and many of the Saints moved away. The Church also moved and found a new home at Jos Campus and Gratiot Avenue. On March 9, 1935, the church paid off the \$25,000.00 mortgage which included a parsonage and Janitor's quarters; **AND**

**WHEREAS:** Several Churches were born out of **EASTSIDE Church Of God**; Elder John Gilbert, birthed Church of Christ Holiness, Elder Glover and Elder Aikens birthed churches. Elder Mosely formed Grace Chapel, Elder Hezekiah Burruss from Atlanta established Mount Moriah Church of God Holiness. Elder Samuel Randle and his wife Sister Effie Randle birthed Northwest Church of God; **Bishop T.D. McGhee** was very liberal and productive in helping to establish churches in Michigan (Pontiac, Flint, Ypsilanti, and Romeo); **AND**

**WHEREAS:** **Bishop T.D. McGhee** was an outstanding eloquent speaker and Leader. He had an extraordinary talent for making everyone feel necessary in the proclamation of Jesus Christ to the world. **Bishop T.D. McGhee** was a humble, devout Teacher and Preacher in the Church of God Sanctified, Incorporated. He remained Pastor for 46 years until his passing in 1966. After his passing, the Lord blessed **EASTSIDE Church Of God** with **Bishop William Kieth Lane, Sr.** who was very appreciative of his humble beginnings and always strived to maintain the high standards already established. **Bishop William K. Lane, Sr.** pastored the **EASTSIDE Church Of God** for 40 years and retired July of 2006. After his retirement, **Elder Timothy R. Keene, Sr.** became the Pastor of **EASTSIDE Church Of God**. **Elder Timothy R. Keene, Sr.** is continuing the legacy "following in the footsteps of these remarkable men of God," moving **EASTSIDE Church Of God** forward reaching the city, the nation, and the world for God; **NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE**

**RESOLVED:** That Council Member Roy McCalister Jr., and the entire Detroit City Council joins with **EASTSIDE Church Of God**, in celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary. May God continue to bless **EASTSIDE Church Of God** with many more years of Service to God's people.

*Brenda Jones*

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

*Mary Suffer*  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM  
*John D. Jones*  
COUNCIL MEMBER  
*Scott B. Jones*  
COUNCIL MEMBER  
*Raquel Castañeda-Jópez*  
COUNCIL MEMBER

*Robert Jones*  
COUNCIL MEMBER  
*John D. Jones*  
COUNCIL MEMBER  
*Archie Jones*  
COUNCIL MEMBER  
*R. S. Jones*  
COUNCIL MEMBER

June 15, 2019  
DATE

# Testimonial Resolution

81

CITY CLERK 2019 JUN 4 PM 2:00

## Valerie Stevenson-Berry

**Equal Employment Opportunity Officer USACE, Detroit District**

**WHEREAS:** Mrs. Valerie Stevenson -Berry worked for the U.S. Government for thirty-nine years beginning her federal career in December 1979, as a GS-01 "Stay-In-School" Student Aide with the Internal Revenue Service. Mrs. Stevenson-Berry joined the U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers, Detroit District, as a File Clerk in January 1986. In June of 1986, she joined the District's Real Estate Division. In August 2003, she changed career paths and accepted the position of Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Officer retiring on May 31, 2019; **AND**

**WHEREAS:** Mrs. Valerie Stevenson-Berry, as EEO Officer, served as the principal Civilian EEO advisor to the District Commander, and was delegated authority to act as the sole agent on behalf of the Secretary of the Army, in processing discrimination complaints under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act and other employment anti-discrimination statutes. Mrs. Stevenson-Berry holds Department of the Army (DA) certifications as an EEO Counselor, and DA Mediator, and has provided these services for other districts and agencies as well; **AND**

**WHEREAS:** During her time with the Detroit District Mrs. Stevenson-Berry's most notable achievements included Letters of Appreciation from Lieutenant General Bostick, and Brigadier General Kaiser (2015); the USACE, Chief of Engineers EEO Award (2015); the Secretary of the Army's Diversity and Leadership Award (EEO Professional) (2015); and the USACE Office of the Diversity and Leadership Best District for Traditional Counseling (2017); **AND**

**WHEREAS:** Mrs. Valerie Stevenson-Berry is a product of the Detroit Public School system, attended Mackenzie High School and completed her education at Detroit College of Business. In her spare time, Mrs. Stevenson-Berry serves as Vice President on the Board of Directors, for the New Hope Community Development Non-Profit Housing Corporation in Detroit, Michigan. She is a long time member of Corpus Christi Parish in Detroit, Michigan where she previously served as an assistant Youth Minister, and an alternate on Parish Council. She currently serves on the Faith Formation Committee, an assistant Catechist for First Reconciliation /First Communion, Children's Liturgy, and as an EME. Mrs. Valerie Stevenson-Berry's interest includes youth and family related activities. Mrs. Stevenson-Berry is a native Detroiter, she is married and has a son and daughter; **NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE**

**RESOLVED:** That Councilman Roy McCalister, Jr. and the entire Detroit City Council now extends its heartfelt congratulations to Valerie Stevenson-Berry on her retirement after nearly 39 years of dedicated and exemplary service to the City of Detroit. May God continue to bless you with success and prosperity.

*Brenda Jones*  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

*Mary Shuford*  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM

*James L. Lynn*  
COUNCIL MEMBER

*Scott B. B.*  
COUNCIL MEMBER

*Raquel Castañeda-López*  
COUNCIL MEMBER

*Dabe S. L.*  
COUNCIL MEMBER

*Chad S.*  
COUNCIL MEMBER

*S. S.*  
COUNCIL MEMBER

May 31, 2019

DATE