

Resolution honoring Reverend Horace Sheffield III

Whereas, Reverend Horace Sheffield III was born into a family that believed in education, civil rights, social activism, and faith. As the son of Reverend Horace Sheffield Jr. and Mary Otto Sheffield, young Horace studied hard in school and at the side of his parents, who were always active in causes and events for racial equality, social justice, and the success of the City of Detroit, including reforms that led to the election of Mayor Coleman A. Young and the creation of the Board of Police Commissioners; and

Whereas, With such role models and opportunities to witness social change makers, Rev. Sheffield became a local and national leader, at times following in his father's footsteps and blazing his own new trail. His past and present positions include the CEO of the Detroit Association of Black Organizations, known by generations of Detroiters as DABO; President of the Michigan Chapter of the National Action Network; National Chairperson of Restore Black Wall Street 2021 campaign; Chairperson of the Detroit Ecumenical Ministers Alliance; and National Board Member of the Black Leadership Commission on Aide and the National Cares Movement. A Lifetime Member of the NAACP and the Pastor of New Destiny Fellowship, he is a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc., Xi Beta Sigma Detroit Graduate Chapter, as well as a radio show host and media personality; and

Whereas, Police Commissioners since 1974 have worked with Rev. Sheffield during numerous efforts and programs to improve community safety, police-community relations, and civilian oversight of the Police Department. While pursuing mutual goals, the Board always knows Rev. Sheffield as a great partner and a powerful voice for advocacy and in winning the fight against any community challenge. As he has said, "Social activism is more than helping the community; it's reaching and changing lives for a better tomorrow." His teachings are evident to all and in the legacy passed to his children, Horace IV and Mary who now blaze their own paths, including the history of his daughter as Detroit's youngest City Council President and, in 2026, the City's first female Mayor.

Therefore, Be It

Resolved, The Board of Police Commissioners recognizes Reverend Horace Sheffield III for decades of civic leadership in advancing public safety and community-led civilian oversight of law enforcement. His tremendous works and achievements have changed, improved and strengthened lives of people in Detroit and across the United States.