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A CEREMONAL RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To recognize and honor Retired Lieutenant Tawanna Robinson for her outstanding service to the District of Columbia Fire and EMS Department and residents of the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, Tawanna Robinson was born and raised in Washington, D.C.;

WHEREAS, Tawanna Robinson studied nursing at the University of the District of Columbia while working at St. Elizabeth's Hospital;

WHEREAS, Tawanna Robinson was appointed as a recruit to the D.C. Fire and EMS Department, and after graduation from the Fire Academy was assigned to Truck Company #15, located at 2101 14th Street SE;

WHEREAS, in 1984 Tawanna Robinson responded to her first fire and was instrumental in saving a family of six children, and was recommended by D.C. Fire and EMS Department for a silver medal for her selfless heroic act as a probationary fire fighter;

WHEREAS, Tawanna Robinson's silver medal nomination was met with opposition for her being an African American woman and probationary fire fighter;

WHEREAS, Tawanna Robinson became the first woman to receive a Fire Service Medal of Valor for her heroic 1984 rescue, and later the Bronze Bar was added to the original medal, which is the highest recognition awarded by the fire department to its members;

WHEREAS, Tawanna Robinson became Truck Company #15's first African American Woman technician, the first African American Woman battalion aid, and the first woman officer at Tower 10, the apparatus that serves as a safety precaution for President Barack Obama and Vice President Biden;

WHEREAS, after twenty-eight years of service in November 2010 retired from the D.C. Fire and EMS Department;

WHEREAS, in her retirement Tawanna Robinson volunteers for the Citizens Policy Academy Alumni Association, Bradbury/Boulevard Heights Civic Association, Bradbury Heights Elementary School, John E. Howard Sr. Center, and math and reading tutor;

51
52 WHEREAS, Tawanna Robinson actively serves as a member of First Baptist Church of Marshall
53 Heights where she visits nursing homes, sets up programs for seniors, assists with Thanksgiving food
54 baskets, works with culinary arts, volunteers with the youth ministry and summer vacation bible school,
55 and first aid nurse;

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57 WHEREAS, Tawanna Robinson is a proud mother of two children, four children, and one God
58 child.

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60 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, that this resolution
61 may be cited as the “Tawanna Robinson Ceremonial Recognition Resolution of 2023”.

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63 Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia honors Tawanna Robinson for her years of
64 dedication to the D.C. Fire and EMS Department and the residents of the District of Columbia.

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66 Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the
67 District of Columbia Register.