

  
Councilmember Kenyan R. McDuffie

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5 A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION  
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9 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
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13 To honor and recognize the life of Derrick Ward and celebrate his profound contributions  
14 to journalism, his unwavering dedication to the Washington, D.C., community, and his enduring  
15 legacy as a loving father and inspiring role model.  
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17 WHEREAS, Derrick Ward was born and raised in Washington, D.C. and grew up in the  
18 Marshall Heights and H Street Corridor neighborhoods, attended H.D. Woodson High School,  
19 and graduated from the University of Maryland, reflecting his deep-rooted connection to the  
20 community he served;  
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22 WHEREAS, Derrick began his illustrious journalism career in radio, contributing to  
23 esteemed stations such as WPFW, WAMU, and WTOP, where he covered significant events  
24 including the Iran-Contra hearings, September 11<sup>th</sup>, and the Washington-area sniper shootings;  
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26 WHEREAS, throughout his career, Ward served as a mentor to many aspiring journalists,  
27 offering guidance and support to those entering the field. His leadership and dedication to  
28 journalism left a lasting impact on his colleagues and the broader media community.  
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30 WHEREAS, in 2006, Derrick joined News4 Washington as a reporter, bringing his  
31 profound knowledge of the city’s history and his exceptional storytelling skills to television  
32 audiences, earning the reputation of News4’s “resident D.C. historian and poet”;  
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34 WHEREAS, beyond his journalistic endeavors, Derrick was a talented musician, known  
35 for his proficiency with the guitar, and was celebrated for his warmth, humor, and unwavering  
36 dedication to his craft;  
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38 WHEREAS, Derrick Ward passed away on January 7, 2025, at the age of 62;

39 WHEREAS, Derrick is survived by his three children—Derrick Jr., Ian, and Marisa—  
40 who continue to honor his legacy;  
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43 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, this resolution may be  
44 cited as the “Derrick Ward Posthumous Recognition Resolution of 2025”.  
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46           The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes and honors the accomplishments of  
47 the Derrick Ward and congratulates him on a great season.

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49           This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the  
50 District of Columbia Register.