

RESOLUTION NUMBER 180
HONORING BRYANT HAMILTON AND DARRYL WATSON OWNERS OF THE “SPEAKEASY A BAR AND RESTAURANT”

WHEREAS, this Honorable Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis, during Black History Month, recognizes and applauds African American owned and operated “Speakeasy A Bar and Restaurant” and the owners Bryant Hamilton and Darryl Watson; and

WHEREAS, Speakeasy A Bar & Restaurant, located in the Walnut Park neighborhood, has carved a pathway to success by being a black-owned business in the community; and

WHEREAS, it was originally purchased in 1984 by Matt Miley, Battalion Chief of the St. Louis Fire Department. It has been told that Matt Miley and Sherman George studied for the Captain test in the back room of the Speakeasy; and

WHEREAS, in 1995, Cat and Leroy Rogers, who worked for Matt Miley for 11 years, decided to purchase the Speakeasy A Bar and Restaurant. They owned and operated the business until 2006 when Bryant Hamilton and Darryl Watson purchased it. These two men continued the traditions of Speakeasy by supporting the community they serve.

WHEREAS, their many fans can attest to the quality that the Speakeasy A Bar and Restaurant brings to the community and love the “FREE Fish Fry Fridays” that Darryl and Bryant host every Friday from 4:30pm to 6:30pm; and

WHEREAS, Speakeasy A Bar and Restaurant also host events throughout the year such as the Annual Back to School Drive for the community, a Community Picnic in the backyard held in September and the October Coat-Hat-Glove Drive.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by this Honorable Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize and honor, during Black History Month, Mr. Bryant Hamilton and Mr. Darryl Watson and their creative business “Speakeasy A Bar and Restaurant” as well as their ongoing effort to provide free services to the African American community. We further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented at a time and place and to those deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced this 18th day of February, 2022 by:

The Honorable Pamela Boyd, Alderwoman 27th Ward
The Honorable Lewis E. Reed, President, Board of Aldermen
The Honorable Sharon Tyus, Alderwoman 1st Ward
The Honorable Lisa Middlebrook, Alderwoman 2nd Ward
The Honorable Brandon Bosley, Alderman 3rd Ward
The Honorable Dwindlerlin Evans, Alderwoman 4th Ward
The Honorable James Page, Alderwoman 5th Ward
The Honorable Christine Ingrassia, Alderwoman 6th Ward
The Honorable John Coatar, Alderman 7th Ward
The Honorable Annie Rice, Alderwoman 8th Ward
The Honorable Dan Guenther, Alderman 9th Ward
The Honorable Joseph Vollmer, Alderman 10th Ward
The Honorable Sarah Martin, Alderwoman 11th Ward
The Honorable Bill Stephens, Alderwoman 12th Ward
The Honorable Anne Schweitzer, Alderwoman 13th Ward
The Honorable Carol Howard, Alderwoman 14th Ward

The Honorable Megan E. Green, Alderwoman 15th Ward
The Honorable Thomas Oldenburg, Alderman 16th Ward
The Honorable Tina Pihl, Alderwoman 17th Ward
The Honorable Jesse Todd, Alderman 18th Ward
The Honorable Marlene Davis, Alderwoman 19th Ward
The Honorable Cara Spencer, Alderwoman 20th Ward
The Honorable John Muhammad, Alderman 21st Ward
The Honorable Jeffrey Boyd, Alderman 22nd Ward
The Honorable Joseph Vaccaro, Alderman 23rd Ward
The Honorable Bret Narayan, Alderman 24th Ward
The Honorable Shane Cohn, Alderman 25th Ward
The Honorable Shameem Clark Hubbard, Alderwoman 26th Ward

Adopted the 18th day of February, 2022 as attested by:

Terry Kennedy
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen