

RESOLUTION NO. 29

Adonis Reddick

WHEREAS, Adonis Demarco Reddick was born November 27, 1970, to Aaron Reddick and Alice Williams; Adonis was born with cerebral palsy and was told he would never walk or talk; Adonis' parents worked with him to prove the doctors wrong; and

WHEREAS, Adonis attended Desoto High School, where he was on the wrestling team and received many awards and medals; he then attended St. Louis Community College, where he studied business management; and

WHEREAS, Adonis developed a passion for chess as a young boy and, at the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis, he was more than merely a member; he was a fixture on the Saint Louis chess scene; and

WHEREAS, Adonis was blessed with a daughter, Danielle Reddick, on June 18, 1996; he became a grandfather when Aubrey Bell was born on November 1, 2015; Danielle and Aubrey were the light of his life; and

WHEREAS, Adonis was an advocate, activist, and community organizer for the disability community and their allies; he was the co-founder of the Association of Spanish Lake Advocates (ASLA), a group committed to an accessible world based on full inclusion; he was active in the Coalition of Truth in Independence (CTI) as a member of their leadership team; Adonis also consulted with local governments, agencies, businesses, and neighbors to ensure that the voices of those living with a disability were heard; and

WHEREAS, Adonis served as an invaluable resource to many, was a wealth of knowledge, and possessed an unbreakable spirit that helped change the landscape of the Saint Louis region; this advocacy culminated on October 5, 2015, when he was recognized and awarded with The Arc's 2015 Self Advocate of the Year Catalyst Award at the group's national convention in Indianapolis, Indiana; and

WHEREAS, Adonis sadly departed this life in May of 2016; and

WHEREAS, Adonis had a passion for his friends and family; enjoyed spending time with them and always had a smile on his face.

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize the tremendous contributions of Adonis Reddick and offer our condolences to his family. We further direct the Clerk of this Board to include a copy of this Resolution in the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a memorial copy for presentation at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 19th day of May, 2016, by:

The Honorable Christine Ingrassia, Alderwoman 6th Ward
The Honorable Lewis E. Reed, President St. Louis Board of Aldermen
The Honorable Megan-Ellyia Green, Alderwoman 15th Ward

Adopted this the 19th day of May, 2016, as attested:

Timothy O'Connell
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen