

RESOLUTION 121
Sharron Washington

WHEREAS, Sharron Washington was born and raised in the City of St. Louis. He and his sister Collen were raised by his mother Lessie C. Washington;

WHEREAS, Sharron lived in nine St. Louis neighborhoods and attended eight public elementary schools; and

WHEREAS, at the age of five, Sharron was diagnosed with Spinal Meningitis and was confined to Homer G. Phillips Hospital. After he returned home he was told he could not participate in any physical activities because it could be fatal. His mother always reminded him that he could not try to do all the things other boys did. He told her, “*Mom I can do what everyone else can, if given the chance*”. He set out to prove to his Mother and Grandfather that he could accomplish anything and joined the Neighborhood House Boxing Team; and

WHEREAS, Sharron went on to become a Golden Glove Champion at the age of 13, even though the starting age was 16. He later became a city boxing champion; and

WHEREAS, Sharron attended Hadley Technical School where he participated in Track and Football. He was chosen “Most Outstanding Athlete” and the person with the Best Physique, but after finding trouble, he was saved by his coaches: Mr. Lenard Mershon and Mr. Otis Finley. His probation officers recommended a path to college - Morningside College however, after one semester of failing his classes he was back at home. Soon after, Sharron became faced with challenges of the *inner city streets*; and

WHEREAS, later a friend asked that he join him on a ride to Truman State University in Kirksville, MO. There he met the football coach who challenged him on his football skills. He made the football and track teams where he helped win Conference Championships. He made all-conference for three years and was inducted into the Truman State University Football Hall of Fame. He was drafted by the Houston Oilers and played in the Canadian Football League; and

WHEREAS, Sharron received a Bachelor Degree in Physical Education. He coached and taught at Soldan High School, Harris Stowe, Kirkwood High School and O’Fallon Technical School where he lead his team to a District Title. He became the first African American Male Assistant Principal at Pattonville High School;

WHEREAS, “Coach Washington” is truly God sent and his legacy lives on through all that he touches.

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 the fortitude of Sharron Washington and 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 to our honoree at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced this 30th day of August, 2017 by:

The Honorable Joseph Vollmer, Alderman 10th Ward

Adopted this 30th day of August, 2017 as attested by:

Donna Elliott
Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen