

RESOLUTION NUMBER 136
The Service and Contributions of Julie Lawson and
the Crime Victim Advocacy Center

WHEREAS, the Crime Victims Advocacy Center (CVAC) is the oldest victims assistance program in the country, founded in 1972 to pursue a definition of justice that includes the victim; and

WHEREAS, in 2005 Julie Lawson brought her 18 years' expertise in executive nonprofit management and passion for the rights and well being of victims of violent crime to the role of executive director; and

WHEREAS, for the last 10 years Julie has been dedicated to meeting the needs of those who've been physically, financially and emotionally victimize -- an ear for those unheard, a voice for the voiceless and a source for healing; and

WHEREAS, Crime Victim Advocacy Center is the only community-based service provider in the St. Louis area to serve victims of all types of crime regardless of the case's status in the criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS; Julie has been successful at amplifying and expanding these important services. During her tenure the agency's size and number of victims served doubled, CVAC merged with Legal Advocates for Abused Women, a new focus on human trafficking and hate crimes was launched and stronger coalitions were built among organizations who serve crime victims and between these organizations and government bodies at all levels; and

WHEREAS, Julie has served as a member of the U.S. District Attorney's Hate Crimes Task Force, the Vice President of the Missouri Victims Assistance Network, the Vice President of the Missouri Restorative Justice Coalition and has been a strong voice for social equity and victim's rights for more than a decade; and

WHEREAS, her new role as Vice President of FOCUS St. Louis will allow her to continue her quest and follow her passion to serve and support the individuals, families and communities who are, each day, reeling from the impacts of violence crime here in St. Louis; and

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 Ms. Julie Lawson in her 10 years of service to the Crime Victims Advocacy Center and to victims of violent crime throughout our City and region. 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 November 20th, 2015 by:

Honorable Lewis E. Reed, President

Adopted November 20th, 2015 as attested by:

Donna Evans-Booker
Assistant Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen