

RESOLUTION NO. 138
Honoring the Life of
The Honorable Judge Donald McCullin

WHEREAS, Donald McCullin was born on April 14, 1941 in St. Louis, Missouri to Earnest and Virgie McCullin. He was the eldest of four children. Both parents preceded him in death; and

WHEREAS, As a young adult, Donald married; and to this union four children were born and subsequently eight grandsons and five great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Donald's grandchildren were an integral part of his life, and they all looked up to him as a father figure. He enjoyed attending numerous sporting events in support of his grandsons. He was their biggest fan, often jumping out of his seat in excitement while recording their games. He also enjoyed many activities with his grandsons including bowling, movie outings, racquetball, air shows, going out to eat, and especially taking them to see the "greatest show on turf" St. Louis Rams; and

WHEREAS, Donald attended the St. Louis Public Schools and graduated from Soldan High School. He went to college at Southern Illinois University and earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mathematics. He deeply valued education and went on to attain a Master of Arts in Mathematics from Webster University and a Juris Doctorate Degree from St. Louis University School of Law. Donald was a member of the Missouri, Illinois, and California bars; and

WHEREAS, Donald began his career in East St. Louis as a high school mathematics teacher. He was loved and respected by his students, so much so they continually invited him to participate and speak at their class reunions. After teaching for several years, Donald decided to begin a career in law; and

WHEREAS, Donald worked in private practice with the firm of Wilson, Smith, and McCullin, served as Managing Attorney for the United Auto Workers Legal Services Program and was employed with Anheuser-Busch Companies as director of Diversity and Compliance. He served in this position until Gov. Mel Carnahan appointed him as circuit court judge in St. Louis City in 1999, the same year his Rams went on to win Super Bowl XXXIV. 1999 was his year; and

WHEREAS, after retiring as circuit court judge, Donald served as a hearing officer for the St. Louis Parking Commission and the St. Louis Civil Service Commission, as well as Disciplinary Hearing Officer for the Advisory Committee of the Supreme Court of Missouri; and

WHEREAS, Ferguson City Council members appointed Judge Donald McCullin as the city's municipal judge. He served the citizens of Ferguson for 10 months until his 75th birthday. During his tenure, he withdrew all arrest warrants issued before December 31, 2014. This gave the residents a fresh start, allowing them to apply for flexible payment plans, community service, and reduced fines to settle their tickets. His compassionate nature was really on display in Ferguson; and

WHEREAS, Judge McCullin is the recipient of numerous awards including The Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis President's Award, the National Bar Association President's Award, Best Region Award (1990), Humanitarian Award, Distinguished Service Award, The Honorable Theodore McMillian Award BLSA, and the Region VIII of BLSA instituted an annual award to a worthy student titled the Donald L. McCullin Leadership Award. The Mound City Bar Association named him a Legal Legend; and

WHEREAS, Donald was active in the legal community, a member of the Mound City Bar Association, Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis, St. Louis Lawyer's Association, Women Lawyer's Association, National Bar Association, and American Bar Association. He was also a columnist for the St. Louis Lawyer newsletter writing bimonthly on minority issues in the legal profession. He served two terms as president of the Mound City Bar Association and Regional Director of the National Bar Association; and

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to mourn the passing and recognize the tremendous contributions, life, and legacy of the Honorable Judge Donald McCullin. 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 commemorative copy for presentation at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 14th day of October, 2016, by:

The Honorable Lewis E. Reed, President, St. Louis Board of Aldermen
The Honorable Samuel L. Moore, Alderman, 4th Ward

Adopted this the 14th day of October, 2016, as attested by:

Timothy O'Connell
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen