

RESOLUTION 157
Deniya Irving

WHEREAS, on June 1, 2017, Jessica Garth, age 24 and Derrick Irving, age 27 were killed in a triple fatal shooting in the Walnut Park East neighborhood; their seven year old daughter, Deniya Irving was critically injured; and

WHEREAS, after the shooting doctors told Deniya's loved ones that she was unlikely to survive the quadruple shooting that claimed the lives of her parents and left her in critical condition; doctors expected to take her organs for transplant, then turn off life support; and

WHEREAS, Deniya's grandmother, Lawanda Griffin was told Deniya was brain damaged and there was nothing they could do, until they saw brain movement on the monitor and that was a glimmer of hope; and

WHEREAS, her grandmother knew she was a fighter and prayed during her surgery to replace a bone that had been removed from her brain due to swelling, that she would survive and show more signs of progress; and

WHEREAS, since Deniya was released from the hospital the St. Louis community has rallied to support her; an anonymous donor surprised them with a new van to transport her and her grandmother to her speech and physical therapy sessions, her classmates are hosting a donation drive for her and her sister during the holidays, and friends are helping with medical expenses.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations and join with the family and friends of Deniya Irving to express our hope in her recovery and our promise to work within our communities to reduce the senseless violent crimes that leave our children without parents and our mothers and fathers without children. 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 the family at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced this 20th day of October, 2017 by:

Honorable Lewis E. Reed, President St. Louis City Board of Aldermen

Adopted this 20th day of October, 2017 as attested by:

Donna Elliot
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen