

RESOLUTION NO. 60

Jamala Rogers

WHEREAS, the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, Inc. has selected 14 distinguished women to be honored at the *Salute to Women in Leadership Gala* celebrated on Friday, June 17, 2016, and held at the Marriott St. Louis Grand Hotel in downtown St. Louis, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, Inc., under the leadership of its President and CEO, Michael McMillan, strives to enhance the lives of individuals within the entire Metropolitan area of St. Louis and St. Clair and Madison Counties in Illinois by focusing on self empowerment through 26 programs fostering education, economic and social services, neighborhood stabilization, and the recognition of outstanding women who have gone beyond the call of duty in service to the community; and

WHEREAS, Jamala Rogers is the recipient of the Salute to Women in Leadership Civil Rights Leadership Award for her work addressing structural racism and economic disparities; and

WHEREAS, Jamala Rogers is a founding member of the Organization for Black Struggle, the Youth Council for Positive Development, the Coalition Against Police Crimes & Repression, and the Justice Institute; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Rogers has challenged the criminal industrial complex for decades focusing on mass incarceration, wrongful convictions, and the death penalty; she is associated with the exonerations of several Missouri men and women, including Ellen Reasonover, Joseph Amrine, Darryl Burton, Reggie Clemmons, and Eric Griffin; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Rogers has been a featured columnist for the St. Louis American newspaper for over 20 years; she is on the editorial boards of Black Commentator and The Black Scholar; she is the author of *The Best of the Way I See It*, a compilation of her political writings. Her latest book is *Ferguson is America: Roots of Rebellion*, which has received critical acclaim; she currently is the 2017 Activist-in-Residence at the University of Wisconsin-Madison; and

WHEREAS, the State of Missouri owes its greatness to the tireless efforts and lofty standards of leading women such as Jamala Rogers, recipient of the Salute to Women in Leadership Civil Rights Leadership Award for her career achievements, who has demonstrated a dedicated, altruistic commitment to her fellow citizens.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize Jamala Rogers as a Salute to Women in Leadership Civil Rights Leadership Award Honoree, and we wish our honoree continued success, achievement, and accomplishment. 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 on the 17th day of June, 2016, by:

The Honorable Marlene E. Davis, Alderwoman 19th Ward

Adopted this the 17th day of June, 2016, as attested by:

Timothy O'Connell
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen