

RESOLUTION NUMBER 123

James Claybourn Bush

Whereas, James Claybourn Bush was born on February 27, 1913 in Covington, Virginia Charles Claybourn and Bertha Harris Bush; and

Whereas, Mr. Bush graduated from West Virginia State College in 1933. He left an enviable academic record there that carved a path to his next major step. Upon completion of his work at West Virginia, he entered the College of Law at Howard University and graduated magna cum laude in June 1937. He passed the legal bar the same year; and

Whereas, he went from Washington, DC to Cleveland, Ohio, where he opened law office with Attorney Charles Quick. From Cleveland, where he was enjoying a splendid practice, he moved to Jefferson City, Missouri to accept the appointment as assistant to the Professor of Law at Lincoln University. In 1942, he was appointed as assistant to the Secretary of the Interior, Mr. Harold Ickes. He held this position for two years until he returned to Missouri; and

Whereas, Mr. Bush opened his private law practice in St. Louis in 1944. From 1947-1948 he served as a State Representative. When he assumed his private law practice, he formed a law partnership with W.S. Diuguid, Attorney-at-Law; and

Whereas, he spent many years working tirelessly to improve the plight of African Americans and African American youth. In 1944, through the South Side Civic Improvement Association, organized by him and Attorney Diuguid, he accompanied the first group of African American youth to Buder Playground. Two years later, after a continued struggle, he led them back where this time they entered the bath house for the first time; and

Whereas, Mr. Bush was a member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, the Mound City Bar Association, and the South Side Civic Improvement Association.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize and honor James Claybourn Bush 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 on the 17th day of June, 2011 by:

Honorable Charles Quincy Troupe, Alderman 1st Ward

Adopted this the 17th day of June, 2011 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen