

**Resolution Number 137**  
**Reverend Noella Austin Buchannon**

**WHEREAS**, the Reverend Noella Austin Buchanan is the proud pastor of St. James African Methodist Episcopal Church in St. Louis and has served since May of 2005. Prior to coming to St. Louis, she was the founding pastor of Corona Community African Methodist Episcopal Church in California, noted for its mission minded works in the United States, Haiti and Africa; and

**WHEREAS**, Rev. Noella, retired and went into full time ministry after working 32 years in the corporate world as an Operational Auditor and Regional Personnel Manager where she was managing a multi-million dollar operation and was directed the payment of 17,000 employees. She was also the Founder and Director of the Bethel Community Outreach Human Development agency, receiving major grants to develop outreach programs which provided educational classes for the prevention of teen pregnancy, HIV/AIDS, and nutrition classes. Educating the community on infant mortality through the Black Infant Health Program and First 5 enhanced this work, resulting in statewide recognition and citations; and

**WHEREAS**, she completed her undergraduate work at Redlands University, and did graduated studies at Fuller and Payne Theological Seminaries towards her Master of Divinity Degree while serving as president of the African American Student Association and on the Search and Placement Board for new faculty. Additionally she earned certificates at the University of Southern California in the field of Pre-retirement and Grief Counseling and at the USC Medical Center in the field of Sickle Cell Education and Counseling; and

**WHEREAS**, community work has always been her passion. Rev. Buchanan was appointed for a three year term by the Governor to the Child Abuse and Neglect Review Board. She worked tirelessly with community leaders to set up a program at Turner Middle School for drop out students, serve in the capacity as an advisor for St. Louis Schools and chairs the members for the St. Louis Metropolitan Clergy Coalition. She has served as Lead Executive for the United Way and on various boards as directors or on advisory councils for the Sickle Cell foundation and the Community College Placement Association. Prior to being an ordained minister, she served on all levels of the Women's Missionary Society; and

**WHEREAS**, her community and ministerial work has opened doors for her speaking throughout the United States and internationally on the mission field in African, Israel, Turkey and Jamaica. She worked in the justice system to assist those incarcerated with educational and employment opportunities. She has received numerous citations and awards for her religious and community work. She is a denominational leader. She is Chair of the Finance committee, Member of Board of Trustees and previously Episcopal District President of Women in Ministry for the 14 western states. She is married to The Rev. Dr. Morris A. Buchanan, retired pastor. They have a daughter and two grandchildren. Her greatest desire is to serve the LORD and to be a blessing to His people.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize Reverend Noella Austin Buchanan and we wish her continued success, achievement and accomplishment 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 5th day of October, 2012 by:

**Honorable Samuel L. Moore, Alderman 4th Ward**

Adopted this 5th day of October, 2012 as attested by:

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David W. Sweeney  
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

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Lewis E. Reed  
President, Board of Aldermen