

**Resolution Number 195**  
**Mrs. Anita Jenkins Banks**

**WHEREAS**, Anita Louise Jenkins was born on December 3, 1924 in Bay Saint Louis, Mississippi, to the union of Thomas and Marie Jenkins, her family also included two sibling,s Marie Theresa Jenkins Green and Henrietta Sarah Jenkins Avery; and

**WHEREAS**, Anita Jenkins came to St. Louis in 1945 to attend St. Mary’s Infirmiry School of Nursing “for the colored”, the first Catholic school of nursing for African American women in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, after becoming a registered nurse, Anita Jenkins earned a Bachelor of Science degree at St. Francis College in Joliet, Illinois. She went to work as a nurse and married Senator J.B. "Jet" Banks on October 22, 1949; and

**WHEREAS**, Anita Banks “did a lot of nursing,” working at Homer G. Phillips Hospital, in the operating room at DePaul and served as Director of Nurses at Yeatman Community Health Center for 16 years before transitioning to business management alongside her husband; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Banks has served as a member of St. Alphonsus Liguori (Rock) Parish in North St.Louis for more than 50 years, contributing as a humanitarian, minister of Holy Communion, lector and commentator. Contributing also on the Social life Committee to provide community activities, such as Elders Day, Oldies But Goodies Dance and back to school programs; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Banks is a member of the Martin Luther King, Jr. State Celebration Commission which oversees the state observances of the day in January honoring the late Rev. Dr. King, Jr. Mrs. Banks sponsors an essay contest for sixth through eighth grade Catholic and public school students. She ensures that the winners get savings bonds, and each student gets a certificate for participation with a reception at “Rock” Church; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Banks is president of the St.Mary’s Infirmiry Alumnae Association, serves with the Annie Malone Children and Family Service Center, both the parade and Soiree. She volunteers for the St. Louis American Foundation’s Salute to Excellence in Education, the Sickle Cell Advocates organization and is part of a Senior citizen Leadership team with Ollie Stewart and Betty Thompson; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Banks is a member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Peter Claver, both the Third Degree and Fourth Degree courts, and a recipient of the Parish of St. Alphonsus, Sister Thea Bowman Award for service to church and community.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize the accomplishment of Anita Louise Jenkins Banks as an extraordinary community servant and believer of helping others to receive satisfaction of life’s joyful fulfillments and direct the Clerk of this Board to prepare a commemorative copy of this resolution to the end that we may be present it to our honoree at a time and place deemed appropriate by the sponsor.

Introduced on the 9th day of January, 2015 by:

**Honorable Chris Carter, Alderman 27<sup>th</sup> Ward**

Honorable Lewis E. Reed, President St. Louis City Board of Aldermen  
Honorable Sharon Tyus, Alderwoman 1<sup>st</sup> Ward  
Honorable Dionne Flowers, Alderwoman 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward  
Honorable Marlene E. Davis, Alderwoman 19<sup>th</sup> Ward

Adopted this 9<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2015 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