

RESOLUTION NUMBER 214

James H. Buford

WHEREAS, James H. Buford, a native St. Louisan, has served as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis since 1985.

WHEREAS, Buford holds a B.A. in Human Services Administration from Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, PA. He holds honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters degrees from Harris-Stowe State University, in 1993; and from the University of Missouri of St. Louis, in 1995; Webster University, in 2000; Eden Theological Seminary in 2006 and Fontbonne University in 2008.

WHEREAS, on the state level, Missouri Governor Mel Carnahan appointed Buford as secretary of the St. Louis County Board of Elections in 1993, in 2005, Mayor Francis Slay appointed Buford to the St. Louis Public School Board and in April 2008, Governor Matt Blunt appointed Buford to the Missouri Commission on Human Rights. Buford was also appointed to the Missouri Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights in March 2010; and

WHEREAS, as an advocate for social and economic parity, Buford is often a vocal spokesperson on behalf of Urban League constituents. In this role he speaks to the diverse audiences, which embody the whole community--from grass roots to corporate. He serves on the following boards which include: the Executive Board of the St. Louis Council of the Boy Scouts of America, past chairman and member of the Grand Center Arts District Board, chairman of the St. Louis Community College Building Corporation; chairman, St. Louis Connectcare Board; chairman, Downtown St. Louis Foundation Board, Fair St. Louis, St. Louis Zoo Commission, chair-emeritus of the Harris Stowe State University Board; vice-chair of Heat Up St. Louis and Cool Down St. Louis Board; US Bank; St. Louis Mundy Opera Board, Workforce Investment Board; Jobs for America's Graduates Board, St. Louis Gateway Classic Sports Foundation Board, Metropolitan Sewer District Board of Trustees, Missouri State University Foundation Board and the St. Louis Mercantile Library Art Museum Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, he has received numerous awards and honors which include: The 2012 100 Black Men Trailblazer Award, 2012 NAACP East St. Louis Freedom Fund Award for his service to the community, the 2010 Missourian Award, 2008 Human Dignity Award in honor of the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King presented by The YMCA of Greater St. Louis; the 2007 FOCUS "What's Right With The Region Award", the 2006 Annie Malone Children & Family Service Center "Making A Difference Award"; the 2005 Mentor St. Louis Award; 1999 Whitney M. Young Award from the Boy Scouts; the 1997 St. Louis Gateway Classic Lifetime Achievement Award; the 1995 St. Louis Community College Distinguished Alumni Award; 1993 Lamplighter Award presented by the Public Relations Society of America-St. Louis Chapter for leadership and has enhanced the reputation and prestige of the community; and the Brotherhood-Sisterhood Award presented by the National Conference of Christians and Jews; and

WHEREAS, Jim and his wife Susan resides in St. Louis. He has two sons, James Jr. and Jason.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize James H. Buford and we wish him 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 honorees at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 11th day of January, 2013 by:

Honorable Marlene Davis, Alderman 19th Ward

Adopted this the 11th day of January, 2013 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen