

RESOLUTION NUMBER 239
Mayor Freeman R. Bosley Jr.

WHEREAS, on Sunday February 24, 2013, in observance of Black History Month and the 150th Anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, the Charles Sumner High School Alumni Association will host their 10th Annual Membership Round-Up. The event will recognize and honor the achievements of some of the City of St. Louis' African American "Firsts in Their Field" in various political and social positions/roles of distinction; and

WHEREAS, Freeman R. Bosley Jr. carved a place in St. Louis history when he was elected the city's first African American mayor in 1993. However, It wasn't his only "first." Bosley had also distinguished himself as the first African American to serve as St. Louis circuit clerk for the 22nd Judicial Circuit in 1982, then as chairperson of the Democratic Party in St. Louis in 1990; and

WHEREAS, Bosley had barely moved into the mayor's office in City Hall when he had to declare a state of emergency in the flood of 1993. During the day he coordinated management procedures; at night he rolled up his sleeves and sandbagged the levee. Although the city survived the flood, Bosley met much resistance, especially in south St. Louis, where he made the difficult decision to shut off gas and electricity to 2,500 skeptical residents in the floodplain who had refused to evacuate; and

WHEREAS, other notable achievements during Bosley's mayoral term include his role in coordinating the \$70 million buyout of Trans World Airlines (TWA), in which TWA moved its world headquarters to St. Louis. Also, he oversaw efforts to move the Los Angeles Rams football team to St. Louis in 1995; and

WHEREAS, before entering the political arena, Bosley was a staff attorney specializing in consumer affairs at Legal Services of Eastern Missouri. He returned to law practice after his term in office ended in 1997, eventually starting his own firm—Bosley and Associates—in 2004.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize Mayor Freeman R. Bosley Jr. 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 honoree at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 8th day of February, 2013 by:

Honorable Samuel L. Moore, Alderman 4th Ward

Adopted this 8th day of February, 2013 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen