

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 243**

**Mayor Clarence Harmon**

**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**, Mayor Harmon will always have his place in history as the first Mayor of the 21st Century and the Second Millennium. However, Harmon also presided over one of the biggest recent booms in the City of St. Louis; and

**WHEREAS**, as mayor, Harmon promoted St. Louis as a vibrant and special place to live, work, and do business by working with developers to turn abandoned buildings into loft condominiums and rental units. During the first two years of the Harmon's term, more new homes were built in the St. Louis than in the previous six years; and

**WHEREAS**, Mayor Harmon has been a champion of public service. He began his public service career in 1969 as an officer with the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department. He enjoyed a 26-year career with the Department, including four years as the first African-American appointed Chief of Police. Harmon also served as Secretary to the St. Louis Board of Commissioners and headed Special Operations, supervising commanders of the Mounted Patrol, Canine, Mobile Reserve, Prisoner Processing, Criminal Justice Liaison Section, Internal Affairs and Human Resources; and

**WHEREAS**, as Chief, he initiated a Community Oriented Policing program for a number of areas of the city and created a gun buyback program that won international acclaim. He also developed a number of innovative policing strategies, including a Crisis Intervention Program and Project 87, for dealing with nuisance properties and persistent violators of order maintenance ordinances; and

**WHEREAS**, Harmon received numerous awards for his achievements in public service. He was the recipient of four Chief of Police Letters of Commendation for outstanding performance of duty. The St. Vincent Home, which serves abused and abandoned children, presented him with its "Reach Out" award in 1992, the same year he received the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Life and Legacy Award. The Missouri Police Chiefs Association named him the 1995 Police Chief of the Year. In 1998, Mayor Harmon received a certificate of appreciation from the St. Louis Public Schools Community Education Centers and was recognized in 1999 with the Distinguished Chairman's Award by the Dr. Martin Luther King State Celebration Committee.

**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 Honorable Clarence Harmon 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:

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David W. Sweeney  
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

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Lewis E. Reed  
President, Board of Aldermen