

## **Resolution Number 303**

### **Matthew Potter**

**WHEREAS**, Matthew Potter was named Democrat Deputy Election Director for the City of St. Louis Board of Election Commissioners in March of 2006, at a time when the Board was involved in a complex technological overhaul of voting equipment, namely transitioning from the punch card voting system to optical scan and touch screen voting technology; and

**WHEREAS**, Matthew Potter helped restore public confidence, openness, transparency and honesty, which are essential to the conduct of fair elections; and

**WHEREAS**, Matthew Potter was responsible for conducting fair, honest and impartial elections in the City of St. Louis consistent with federal laws, state statutes and the Charter of the City of St. Louis; and

**WHEREAS**, following the November 2000 election the confidence in the City of St. Louis Board of Election Commissioners was diminished due to insufficient resources at the polling sites to properly handle the large voter turnout that occurred; and

**WHEREAS**, Matthew Potter helped restore that public confidence in the elections in the City of St. Louis, as the Board of Election Commissioners implemented responsible reforms making it easier to vote and harder to cheat while cracking down on any attempt to intimidate voters; and

**WHEREAS**, Matthew Potter systematically implemented policies and procedures to ensure the responsible execution of the requirements established by the Help America Vote Act and applicable state statutes and in turn earn public support of these requirements; and

**WHEREAS**, Matthew Potter testified on a variety of election issues for the Missouri House and Senate, Election Assistance Commission and even a United States House Committee on improving the voter registration system; and

**WHEREAS**, Matthew Potter lead on public outreach and openness, the assembly of staff focused on voter service, transparency of record keeping, and the timely and error free tabulation and dissemination of election results, which enabled the City of St. Louis to be held up as an example of best practices for other cities to emulate in the conduct of elections by a highly competent and professional election authority and a model for other cities and counties to emulate.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to congratulate and acknowledge the achievements and the dedication of Matthew Potter for his service to the City of St. Louis; wherein he successfully implemented the many changes in the election process mandated by federal and state law, engaged the public for input and support, and conducted fair, honest and impartial elections on behalf of the citizens of the City of St. Louis, the State of Missouri, and the United States of America; and because of this restoring public confidence in the election process and bringing the Election Board into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, 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 10th day of February, 2012 by:

**Honorable Jeffrey L. Boyd, Alderman 22<sup>nd</sup> Ward**

Adopted this the 10th day of February, 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