

RESOLUTION NUMBER 186
PATRICIA BERNICE JOHNSON

WHEREAS, we pause in our deliberations to note the untimely passing of Patricia Bernice Johnson on Thursday, September 29, 2007; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Johnson, daughter of Lawrence Cohen, Sr. and Viola Bridgeford-Cohen, was born in St. Louis, Missouri on January 12, 1937. She was third of four siblings. Her parents and one sister, Dorothy Cohen-Knuckles, preceded her in death; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Johnson was a student in the St. Louis Public School system attending Waring School and graduating from Vashon High school in January, 1955.

WHEREAS, Mrs. Johnson confessed her faith in Christ, at an early age, and was baptized at the Christ's Southern Mission Church under the leadership of Reverend Herman Gore, Sr. where she was pianist for the junior choir; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Johnson was one of the premiere pianist in the City. She was the pianist for Friendly Temple Missionary Baptist Church for 34 years. She was a member of the St. Louis Gospel Choral Union, played for the Golden Echo Male Chorus, under the leadership of Joshua Gentry and also Billy Davis Jr., just to name a few. Mrs. Johnson unselfishly paved the way for her children to flourish and serve as the musicians and director at Friendly Temple; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Johnson untiringly raised seven children. Church and school were not an option for her children. "As long as you live in my house you are going to church," was one of her themes; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Johnson dedicated 38 years of her life to the St. Louis Public schools as an employee. After Mrs. Johnson's retirement, she dedicated her remaining years to her son's (Pastor Michael Jones) ministry at Friendly Temple. She served in the administration office and on the Hospitality Committee. She was also proprietor of Pat's Tax Services; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Johnson leaves to carry on her legacy, her children: Michelle Jones, Viola Rene Jones Germany, Pastor Michael & Phyllis Jones, Denise & Patrick Taylor (Johnson), Mark & Jaclyn Johnson, Leslie Johnson, Lawrence & Tiffany Johnson. 23 Grandchildren; Saretha, Kawonza, Antjuan, Michael D., Sheronda, Cherrell, Charles, Michael F., Jessica, Jasmine, Lauren, Joshua, Kelsie, Ryan, Taylor, Logan, Irijah, Joy, Amanda, Justus, & Jadon. 11 great grandchildren; Kavion, Khaliq, Sidney, Khayla, LaSheron, Octavia, Jerrell, Kharon, Jordan, Antjuan Jr. & Jaden. 1 sister; Bobbette Kendrick and 1 brother; Lawrence Cohen Jr. A host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis, that, on behalf of the St. Louis Community, we pause to remember the many contributions of Patricia Bernice Johnson to the citizens of the City of St. Louis. We recognize her for her giving spirit and faith in God, and we join with her family and many friends in expressing our sorrow at her passing, 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 memorial copy for presentation to the family, at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 5th day of October, 2007

Honorable Jeffrey Boyd, Alderman 22nd Ward

Adopted this the 5th day of October, 2007 as attested by:

