

RESOLUTION NUMBER 203

Sam Salama

WHEREAS, we have been apprised that on Thursday, October 23, 2008 at the Hyatt Hotel the Metro Sentinel Journal News will convene its 33rd Annual "Yes I Can" awards banquet; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Michael C. Williams, owner and publisher, the Metro Sentinel Journal News continues to recognize the meaningful contributions of stellar St. Louisans; and

WHEREAS, local leaders have been nominated by their peers and admirers as "Special Achievers" in 2008; and

WHEREAS, these local leaders have established themselves as outstanding professionals in the public, private, non-profit, government and educational sectors; and

WHEREAS, Sam Salama was born in Jerusalem, in 1942. In 1948, the Salama family was displaced and was moved forcible as a result of the Palestinian, Israeli Conflict; and

WHEREAS, in 1968, during the Civil Rights Movement, Sam attended South West College in Oklahoma City. Starting a life alone in America with a language barrier and literally no money after paying college tuition, Sam majored in business, where he became a Jack of Many trades and a Master of One (Salama Supermarkets). Migrating to St. Louis, Missouri in 1970, Sam tried his hand in business and became an insurance agent. He later opened the Red Cedar Inn: Restaurant & Steak House in Pacific, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, Sam is the oldest of five brothers and one sister. As the patriarch of the Salama family, Sam embraces loyalty and family unity to the fullest. Sam's motto is "A Family that Prays and Works Together, Stays Together." In 1982, Sam and his family went into the grocery business. They opened their first grocery store in Kinloch, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, the business relocated from Kinloch to South St. Louis City at 39th and Shaw Avenue. In 1987, Sam expanded the family's business venture and purchased property in Downtown St. Louis, at 1444 North 14th Street. In 1988, Sam purchased property for their third supermarket at Euclid and St. Louis Avenue. Sam also opened Salama's Union Supermarket at 4962 North Union Blvd. In 2005, Sam purchased and renovated their newest store located at Chouteau and Truman Parkway; and

WHEREAS, the Salama Markets' Family participate annually in the 8th District Police Station's Christmas Toys, Gifts and Food distribution for needy families; The Salama Markets Winter Coat Give-Away for needy Children and Adults; Summer Camp Scholarships for Inner City Youth; and The St. Louis Metro Sentinel Journal's High School Awards Luncheon.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen for the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize Sam Salama for his stellar accomplishments and commitment to making our region a better place to live and work. We direct the Clerk of this Board to prepare a commemorative copy of this resolution to the end that it may be presented to our honoree at a time and place deemed appropriate by the sponsor.

Introduced on the 24th day of October, 2007

Honorable April Ford-Griffin, Alderwoman 5th Ward

Adopted this the 24th day of October, 2007 as attested:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen