

Resolution Number 238
Northwest Academy of Law

WHEREAS, we have been apprised that Northwest Academy of Law is receiving a 2010 Spirit of Justice Award. A Spirit of Justice Award recognizes lawyers and non-lawyers who have demonstrated accomplishment, leadership and integrity in fostering and maintaining the rule of law and in facilitation and promoting improvement of the administration of justice; and

WHEREAS, created in 2005, the Northwest Academy of Law is a “school of choice” magnet-type school in the St. Louis Public School System. As its name suggest, the Academy is an alternative high school with a specific focus on the legal profession; and

WHEREAS, the curriculum is designed with this in mind, as well as college preparation, concentrating on writing, public speaking, debate and basic knowledge of the law. In addition to law-related classes, the school offers internships through the St. Louis Circuit Court where participants are able to shadow judges, prosecutors, sheriff’s deputies and jury coordinators; and

WHEREAS, interestingly, this school is not just for aspiring lawyers. In fact, many of the school’s first students picked Northwest simply because it was close to their homes, and never even considered becoming a lawyer; and

WHEREAS, however, many of the school’s first graduates (a class of 75 who graduated in June of this year), are planning on attending college. Furthermore, while a handful of students are planning on attending law school, a fair share also plan on pursuing law-related careers including law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, no doubt this career trajectory has been nurtured by the Northwest Academy of Law curriculum; students are quick to mention a new direction and focus along with overcoming challenges and considering new options for their future.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause to recognize the achievements of Northwest Academy of Law 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 copy for presentation, at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 5th day of November, 2010 by

Honorable Gregory J. Carter, Alderman 27th Ward

Adopted this the 5th day of November, 2010 as attested:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen