

RESOLUTION NUMBER 295
The Tyrone Thompson Nonviolent Institute (TTNI)

WHEREAS, as an extension of the Kwame Foundation in St. Louis, Missouri, the Tyrone Thompson Nonviolent Institute (TTNI) utilizes nonviolence as a core value to increase peace, diversity and social awareness. By linking urban youth—both academically successful and at-risk or troubled youth—to effective programs and services, young people create a peer support network that offers alternatives to change their life choices; and

WHEREAS, Tyrone Leon Thompson dedicated his life to upholding the law, raising his three children (Tyrell, Kayla and Tyler), and pursuing educational goals to enhance his knowledge and skills. After 18 years as a University City Police Officer and later as the youngest Police Chief of Pagedale, he was known for finding alternatives to resolve minor incidents involving young people rather than arrest them. This helped youth to minimize negative consequences of an arrest on their ability to obtain future employment; and

WHEREAS, as president of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Nonviolent St. Louis Support Group, Tyrone organized annual trips for St. Louis youth to The Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change, Inc. in Atlanta, Georgia. These trips celebrated the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday and included nonviolence training; and

WHEREAS, Tyrone also conducted weekly mentoring and leadership sessions of the Gentlemen's Club, sponsored by the Kwame Building Group, at the Mel Carnahan St. Louis Public High School; and

WHEREAS, by mentoring African American males, he demonstrated how to live Dr. King's dream by loving, not hating; sharing and understanding; and helping adolescents to flourish as nonviolent proponents.

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 opening of the Tyrone Thompson Nonviolent Institute (TTNI) at the William Harrison Center Campus of St. Louis Community Colleges and we direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to further prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented to our honorees at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 14th day of January, 2011 by:

Honorable Marlene Davis, Alderwoman 19th Ward

Adopted this the 14th day of January, 2011 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen