

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 331**  
**Rodney Winfield**

**WHEREAS**, we pause in our deliberations to note the untimely passing of St. Louis native and world famous comedian, Rodney Winfield; and

**WHEREAS**, Rodney Winfield, whose name was often mentioned in the company of legends like Redd Foxx and Richard Pryor, died at age 76, reportedly due to kidney failure; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Winfield started doing comedy in the mid 1970's when comedians could get work mainly opening up for musical acts. Mr. Winfield opened for the legendary Temptations, The O'Jays; and

**WHEREAS**, he was one of the original tour members for the first Def Jam Comedy Tour; and

**WHEREAS**, he landed a movie role in the 1991 indie film, Talkin' Dirty After Dark. He pretty much played himself – a frank, fun-loving, sharp-tongued standup comic, alongside Martin Lawrence and John Witherspoon; and

**WHEREAS**, in the film, Mr. Winfield made his already popular joke about an “ugly person” even more widely known: “If you follow an ugly person home, an ugly person is going to open the door,” he joked in a kitchen scene. Mr. Winfield thus insured his legacy will live on in one of the most recycled jokes in comedy; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Winfield also landed a role alongside Chris Tucker and Lorenz Tate in the 1995 cult classic Dead Presidents, and he voiced Card Player #3 in late comedian-actor Robin Harris' hit cartoon film Bebe's Kids in 1992.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause to remember the many contributions of Rodney Winfield to the citizens of the City of St. Louis and we join with his many friends in expressing our sorrow at his 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 13<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2009 by:

**Honorable Samuel L. Moore Alderman 4th Ward**

Adopted this the 13<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2009 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