

RESOLUTION NUMBER 365

**Kimber Chappelle
MK & Associates LLC**

WHEREAS, we have been apprised that Kimber Chappelle will be receiving the Larry Parker award for outstanding entrepreneurship from Grace Hill and her name will be placed on the Hall of Fame of the Grace Hill Women’s Business Center; and

WHEREAS, Kimber was born in St. Louis and educated at several universities including the University of Missouri --St. Louis and Lindenwood University. She majored in English with an emphasis on comparative literature. She also completed the 2-year Florence Melton Adult Mini School—a project of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem; and

WHEREAS, MK & Associates is a forensic engineering firm. “We do investigative work related to mechanical, electrical and structural products as well as vehicular accident reconstruction and fire origin and cause investigation” she said. “I not only came from a family of self-employed parents and saw how a business worked from a young age, but I have always had a hand in running the businesses that I have worked for and found doing so extremely pleasurable,” she said. She spent 13 years as vice president of a forensic engineering firm prior to starting her own firm with her business partner in mid-2006; and

WHEREAS, she has been married for 16 years to Bob Beattie and has three children: Chandler, 13; Alia, 6; and Neviyah, 10 months. “My husband helps in the business occasionally with specific research activities and investigative support when we need it.” Kimber said that his caring for their household and the children makes it possible for her to do her job; and

WHEREAS, MK & Associates works for attorneys and insurance companies. Their engineers take a job from its investigation and analysis all the way to testifying in court. The company employs 13 employees and consultants. When it came time to expand the business, Kimber was referred to the Grace Hill Women’s Business Center by the U.S. Small Business Administration. “I worked one on one with Curtis Triggs, a counselor at the Women’s Business Center, on our need for working capital to accommodate our expected growth. Mr. Triggs provided a sounding board for our expansion ideas and worked with us on a successful expansion plan to determine our capital needs.”

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize Kimber Chappelle for her outstanding achievement 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 commemorative copy 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 March, 2009 by:

Honorable April Ford-Griffin, Alderwoman 5th Ward

Adopted this the 24th day of March, 2009 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen

