

REGISTER

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

16-363

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

December 19, 2006

To recognize and honor M. Bernadette Tolson in conjunction with her retirement from the government of the District of Columbia after 31 years of dedicated service.

WHEREAS, M. Bernadette Tolson's willingness to serve, quality of work, and longevity have earned her great respect among her coworkers throughout the District government and with residents throughout the city;

WHEREAS, M. Bernadette Tolson, has demonstrated her commitment and dedication to the government of the District of Columbia and our residents by providing leadership and service to many city-wide projects and initiatives;

WHEREAS, M. Bernadette Tolson, also affectionately known as "Bernie," served in the government of the District of Columbia for 31 years with tremendous compassion, competence, and loyalty, earning the respect and admiration of her colleagues and the citizens of the District of Columbia; and

WHEREAS, M. Bernadette Tolson has successfully served in several key positions within the Department of Employment Services, including as Special Assistant to the Director, Director of Customer Service, Assistant Director of Marketing, and Manager of an Employment Service Center.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "M. Bernadette Tolson Retirement Recognition Resolution of 2006".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes, honors, and congratulates M. Bernadette Tolson for the valuable contributions she has made to the government of the District of Columbia and to our residents.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.

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A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

16-364

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

December 19, 2006

To recognize and honor James D. and Jeanette L. Berry on the occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary and as longtime residents contributing to the quality of life in the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, James D. Berry, who migrated to the District of Columbia with his parents more than 70 years ago, and Jeanette L. Berry, a native Washingtonian, lived in Ward 5 before relocating to Ward 7;

WHEREAS, James D. Berry graduated from Armstrong Senior Technical High School and Jeanette L. Berry graduated from Cardozo Senior High School;

WHEREAS, James D. Berry retired in 1986 after 37 years as a foreman in the United States Department of the Navy Defense Printer Service, and Jeanette L. Berry retired in 1964 on disability after 15 years as a Dictating Machine Transcriber Supervisor at the United States Veterans Administration;

WHEREAS, James D. and Jeanette L. Berry have been members for 45 years at Turner Memorial African Methodist Episcopal Church, now located in Hyattsville, Maryland, where James D. is a member of the Steward Board, the Sons of Allen, the Men's Choir, Usher Board No. 1, and the Missions and Welfare Committee;

WHEREAS, James D. and Jeanette L. Berry have volunteered their services in various capacities, including with the District of Columbia Public Schools and other community endeavors;

WHEREAS, James D. and Jeanette L. Berry will celebrate 60 years of marriage with family and friends; and

WHEREAS, James D. and Jeanette L. Berry are the proud parents of 2 daughters, 2 sons, 4 granddaughters, 3 grandsons, one great granddaughter, and 10 great grandsons.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "James D. and Jeanette L. Berry Recognition Resolution of 2006".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes and honors James D. and Jeanette L. Berry for untiring dedication and service to family, friends, and the citizens of the District of Columbia.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

16-365

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

December 19, 2006

To honor Victoria G. K. Rixey and recognize her service to the Georgetown community as President of the Citizens Association of Georgetown.

WHEREAS, Victoria Rixey is a graduate of the University of Virginia, has a Masters degree in architecture from Rice University and a Masters in Public Administration from Georgetown University;

WHEREAS, Victoria Rixey is a registered architect in the District of Columbia with more than 20 years experience and has worked as an architect in Georgetown for the past 17 years;

WHEREAS, Victoria Rixey served as Director of Design Issues on the Washington Chapter of The American Institute of Architects Board, served 2 terms on the Washington Alumni Board of Georgetown University's McDonough School of Business, and has taught architecture design studios at the University of Maryland and Catholic University;

WHEREAS, Victoria Rixey has 14 years' tenure with Bowie Gridley Architects, where she is a Principal;

WHEREAS, Victoria Rixey is active in the Georgetown community and has served as President of the Citizens Association of Georgetown, the oldest civic association in Washington, serving 1,100 members, since May 2004;

WHEREAS, Victoria Rixey is committed to enhancing the livability of Georgetown for residents by supporting the protection of historic resources, improving parks and streetscapes, and creating a safe, business-friendly environment to support neighborhood shops, restaurants, and services; and

WHEREAS, Victoria Rixey has earned the respect of the Georgetown residential, business, and university communities, and has received a Community Commendation from Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E in recognition of her leadership qualities and high standards in representing the interests of the community.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Victoria G. K. Rixey Recognition Resolution of 2006".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes and honors Victoria Rixey for her many years of devoted service to the Georgetown community and to the District of Columbia.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.

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A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

16-366

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

December 19, 2006

To honor Linda Mercado Greene for her 30 years of outstanding public service and to recognize her stellar contributions to the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, Linda Mercado Greene is a native of Newport News, Virginia, and attended Virginia Union University and Christopher Newport College;

WHEREAS, Linda Mercado Greene has a long history with Africa and the African Diplomatic Corps, dating back to her time as an Africare volunteer in the early 1970s;

WHEREAS, Linda Mercado Greene was invited to South Africa as the personal guest of President Nelson Mandela as a result of her hard work in the United States on behalf of South Africa and the anti-apartheid movement;

WHEREAS, Linda Mercado Greene's Linda Greene and Associates, Inc., served as the public relations/event management firm for dozens of historically significant events in the District of Columbia, including the Million Family March gala;

WHEREAS, Linda Mercado Greene was the national Director of Fundraising for the Million Man March, and a consultant to the 1994 Mayoral campaign of Marion Barry, the 1988 Presidential campaign of Jesse Jackson, and the 1980 Presidential reelection campaign of Jimmy Carter;

WHEREAS, Linda Mercado Greene has appeared on C-Span, Cable News Network, and on the Public Broadcasting Service/WHMM-TV broadcast "Evening Exchange";

WHEREAS, Linda Mercado Greene served with distinction as Chief of Staff to Councilmember Marion Barry from 2004 until May 2006; and

WHEREAS, Linda Mercado Greene now serves as Vice President, Community Affairs and Public Relations for MacFarlane Partners, one of the nation's leading real estate investment management firms.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Linda Mercado Greene Recognition Resolution of 2006".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes and honors Linda Mercado Greene for her many years of outstanding public service and her stellar contributions to the District of Columbia.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

16-367

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

December 19, 2006

To honor Robert Bassam on the occasion of his retirement after 40 years of outstanding District of Columbia government service and to recognize his stellar contributions to the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, Robert Bassam is an Iranian immigrant whose family settled in Miami, Florida;

WHEREAS, Robert Bassam waited tables before becoming a successful entrepreneur;

WHEREAS, Robert Bassam's story is a remarkable example of how hard work and perseverance can lead to professional success;

WHEREAS, Robert Bassam's Easterns Motors, known for its infectious and clever television jingle, has become one of the top 5 automotive groups in the region, while dedicating itself to helping customers without access to credit;

WHEREAS, Robert Bassam has demonstrated his generosity through the building of schools in his homeland or providing millions of dollars of financial assistance and free vehicles to those truly in need in this country; and

WHEREAS, Robert Bassam has earned the nickname "Loprah" for being the local version of Oprah Winfrey because of his numerous philanthropic activities in this region, including in Ward 8 in the District of Columbia.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Robert Bassam Philanthropic Recognition Resolution of 2006".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes and honors Robert Bassam for philanthropic endeavors, corporate citizenship, and future contributions to the citizens of the District of Columbia.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

16-368

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

December 19, 2006

To recognize and remember our young people who lost their lives to homicide during Council Period 16.

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2005, Mayor Anthony Williams and Police Chief Charles Ramsey presented "A report on Juvenile Homicide in the District of Columbia 2002-2004," documenting an alarming increase in juvenile homicide victims and perpetrators;

WHEREAS, in 2004 alone, 24 juveniles under the age of 18 were murdered in the District, nearly double the number of juvenile homicides in 2003;

WHEREAS, the Council of the District of Columbia identified the reduction of youth crime as one of its legislative priorities for Council Period 16;

WHEREAS, by resolution, on March 1, 2005, the Council approved the establishment of the Special Committee on the Prevention of Youth Violent Crime ("Special Committee");

WHEREAS, the Special Committee and the Executive Branch developed the Effective Youth Development: A Strategy to Ensure District Youth Grow Up Problem-Free, Fully Prepared and Fully Engaged;

WHEREAS, in 2005, 12 juveniles under the age of 18 were victims of homicide, and in 2006, 15 juveniles were victims of homicide;

WHEREAS, the Special Committee dedicates its report on the activities of the committee in honor of Cynthia Gray, a Ward 7 resident who lost her life to violence in August 2006;

WHEREAS, the loss of any young person's life, whether they were the victim or the perpetrator, is a tragedy; and

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WHEREAS, the Special Committee recognizes and remembers Mianni Goodine, Tavonte Adon Mobley, Donte Manning, Alvin Mayhew, Lavelle Jones, Andre Belton, Donmiguel Wilson, Lewis Hastings, Kevin Jackson, Marcel Merritt, Erica Anderson, John Allen Jr., Charles Cokely, Isaiah Patterson, Darnell Ford, Delonta Kelsey, Antonio Thrower, Deangelo Borrás, Demarcus Brown, Carl Whitfield, Michael Lucas, Ronnie Garner, Jama-Re Jones, Cynthia Gray, Andre Pee, Dominick Dixon, and CeQuawn Brown, all young people who lost their lives to homicide during Council Period 16.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Youth Violent Crime Victims Remembrance Resolution of 2006".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes and remembers all the young people who lost their lives to homicide during Council Period 16.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

16-369

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

December 19, 2006

To recognize the unselfish service to the community and to the Congregation of the Upper Room Baptist Church of Chester Ross.

WHEREAS, Mr. Chester Ross, a Ward 7 resident, has tirelessly served his country and his community;

WHEREAS, Mr. Ross joined the Marine Corps, survived the Vietnam War, and rose to the rank of Sergeant;

WHEREAS, Mr. Ross was approached for 3 Veterans of Foreign Wars posts, chose Post 2460 in Chevy Chase, and is currently Commander of Post 2460;

WHEREAS, the neighbors of 3900 Clay Place N.E., acknowledged and honored Mr. Ross' commitment to keeping his community clean;

WHEREAS, on any day of the week, Mr. Ross can be found picking up trash in the 3900 block of Clay Place, N.E., and along the 3900 block of Minnesota Avenue;

WHEREAS, Mr. Ross also assists the elderly neighbors with snow removal, lawn care, carrying packages, and placing trash cans in the alley for trash pick-up; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ross is a conscientious, considerate, caring, responsible, and devoted neighbor and friend to the community.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Chester Ross Community Service Recognition Resolution of 2006".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes the commitment and compassion of Chester Ross on behalf of the residents of the 3900 block of Clay Place, N.E., and all District residents.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.

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A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

16-370

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

December 19, 2006

To recognize and commend Walter Gold for his many years of outstanding service to the District of Columbia and its citizens.

WHEREAS, Walter Gold came to Washington, D.C., as a young child and attended Kimball Elementary School, Kramer Junior High School, Souza Junior High School, where he helped cut the ribbon to open the school on March 6, 1950, and Anacostia High School;

WHEREAS, Walter Gold served in the United States Army Airborne as a medic;

WHEREAS, Walter Gold worked as a newsman for the former Washington Evening Star newspaper, including working as the police and fire night reporter for nearly 10 years;

WHEREAS, Walter Gold was hired by District of Columbia Police Chief John Layton to be the first Public Information Officer for the Metropolitan Police Department;

WHEREAS, Walter Gold started the Washington News Network in 1985 with his father, Washington Post columnist Bill Gold, which became the largest independent TV news bureau in the nation's capital;

WHEREAS, Walter Gold retired in October, 2003, as President and General Manager of the Washington News Network;

WHEREAS, Walter Gold was past President and currently serves as Chairman of the Radio-TV News Directors Association, Washington, D.C., chapter;

WHEREAS, Walter Gold served as logistical director for the American Bicentennial Celebration on July 4, 1976, helping to coordinate the parade, National Mall events, and the fireworks display;

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WHEREAS, Walter Gold continued to volunteer his services for logistics and major events in the District of Columbia, including work on Presidential inaugural committees from 1973 through 2001;

WHEREAS, Walter Gold has volunteered his services to the District of Columbia's Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department for more than 15 years;

WHEREAS, Walter Gold has served as President and Chief Operating Officer of the Friendship Fire Association, the volunteer branch of the District of Columbia's Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department that provides canteen and rehabilitation services for all major emergency incidents in Washington, D.C.;

WHEREAS, Walter Gold volunteers as the Executive Director of the D.C. Fire and Emergency Medical Services Museum, whose mission is to preserve the history of the District of Columbia's Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department;

WHEREAS, Walter Gold helped to plan and coordinate the community celebration on November 4, 2006, for the grand reopening of Engine Company 20, Truck 12 in Tenleytown at 4300 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., in Ward 3; and

WHEREAS, Walter Gold is highly admired and respected for his dedication and service to the District of Columbia's Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Walter Gold Recognition Resolution of 2006".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia commends Walter Gold for his untiring dedication and service to the District of Columbia government and to the residents of the District of Columbia.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

16-371

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

December 19, 2006

To recognize and commend Charles H. Ramsey on his tenure as Chief of Police, Metropolitan Police Department, Government of the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, Charles H. Ramsey has announced his intention to retire as the Chief of Police, Metropolitan Police Department, Government of the District of Columbia, on December 28, 2006;

WHEREAS, Charles H. Ramsey has served as Chief of Police, Metropolitan Police Department, Government of the District of Columbia, over the past 8 ½ years, and prior to his arrival at Metropolitan Police Department, as an officer and official within the Chicago Police Department for almost 30 years, rising to the second-highest rank of Deputy Superintendent of Police;

WHEREAS, Charles H. Ramsey inherited a police department in crisis, one that was plagued by inadequate staffing and spotty leadership, one that operated with faulty or non-existent equipment and technology in run-down and even dangerous facilities, one that failed to provide regular training to its officers and suffered the consequences of poor training, and lacked the trust and support of community;

WHEREAS, Charles H. Ramsey arrived to lead the Metropolitan Police Department at the time when the Washington Post won a Pulitzer Prize for its 1998 series of articles documenting that Metropolitan Police Department officers used deadly force more than any other major city police department in the nation;

WHEREAS, Charles H. Ramsey originated the idea of inviting the United States Department of Justice to come in and work cooperatively on reforming the Metropolitan Police Department's use of force policies, training, and equipment, leading to at least a 2/3 reduction in police-related shootings, to better and more regular training and equipment, with increased focus on weapons that are classified as less-than-lethal, and to the creation of the Metropolitan Police

Department's Force Investigation Team, an award-winning national model for the investigation and management of use-of-force matters;

WHEREAS, during his tenure, the Metropolitan Police Department has established numerous improvements in staffing and visibility, pre-employment educational requirements, enhanced recruit and in-service training, including twice-annual firearms training and requalification, homeland security training, and a range of specialized courses;

WHEREAS, during his tenure, the Metropolitan Police Department has upgraded basic supplies and obtained personnel protection equipment for sworn and civilian personnel, secured and maintained a modern fleet of vehicles and other specialty tools, and created a modern police department utilizing the latest technology, attracted applicants of ever higher achievement, and enhanced the security and safety of the city;

WHEREAS, Charles H. Ramsey has earned a national and international reputation as an innovator in community policing strategy, providing both substance and resources to improving police/citizen relationships, as well as responding quickly and creatively to the new threat of terrorism in our nation's capital by providing officers with the training, equipment, and resources necessary to deal with an attack, and improving traffic safety through innovations such as automated enforcement; and

WHEREAS, perhaps most importantly of all, under Charles H. Ramsey's energy, commitment, vision, leadership, and performance, serious crime per capita in the District of Columbia has plummeted by more than 40 percent since 1997, crime rates are lower than at any time since the 1960s, crime is down in practically every category and in practically every neighborhood, and the incidences of homicide have been fewer than 200 for consecutive years for the first time since the mid-1980s.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Charles H. Ramsey Recognition Resolution of 2006".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia congratulates Charles H. Ramsey on his accomplishments and expresses its most sincere best wishes for his continuing success upon his retirement from the Metropolitan Police Department.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.

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A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

16-372

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

December 19, 2006

To recognize and commend Michael J. Fitzgerald on his tenure as Executive Assistant Chief of Police, Metropolitan Police Department, Government of the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, Michael J. Fitzgerald has announced his intention to retire as the Executive Assistant Chief of Police, Metropolitan Police Department, Government of the District of Columbia, on December 31, 2006;

WHEREAS, Michael J. Fitzgerald has served as Executive Assistant Chief of Police, Metropolitan Police Department, for the past 4 ½ years, culminating a 35-year career of public service to the citizens of the District of Columbia that included 6 years as a patrol officer in the Fourth District, and 5 years as a squad sergeant in the Fifth District, a promotion to Lieutenant in 1982 and captain in 1985 with leadership assignments in the Sixth District, the Narcotics and Special Investigations Division, and as Director of Court Liaison Division, a promotion to Inspector in August 1995 in which he returned to command the Fourth District, a January 1997 promotion to Assistant Chief in charge of the former Support Services Bureau with oversight of the Technical Services Bureau as well, and another promotion in September 1998 to the newly created position of Regional Assistant Chief in charge of Regional Operations Command East;

WHEREAS, Michael J. Fitzgerald has overseen the development of a number of innovative crime-fighting and community-partnership strategies that have made District of Columbia neighborhoods safer, chief among these strategies being his management of the Daily Crime Briefings in which up-to-the minute crime patterns are examined, resources deployed, and managers and executives held accountable for producing results;

WHEREAS, Michael J. Fitzgerald has worked diligently to professionalize the Metropolitan Police Department, through reforms in the Metropolitan Police Department's use of force policies, training, and equipment, improvements in staffing and visibility, enhanced recruit and in-service training, including twice-annual firearms training and requalification, homeland security training, and a range of specialized courses, and improved pay, benefits, equipment,

supplies, fleet, technology, and facilities for the men and women of the Metropolitan Police Department;

WHEREAS, Michael J. Fitzgerald has worked tirelessly and successfully to make the District of Columbia safer from both street criminals and terrorists through his strong and innovative management of community policing, homeland security and counter-terrorism, and traffic safety programs;

WHEREAS, Michael J. Fitzgerald, has spent his entire supervisory career preparing other members of the Metropolitan Police Department to become better police officers today and better law enforcement leaders tomorrow by preparing them to handle the dual challenges of community policing and homeland security; and

WHEREAS, perhaps most importantly of all, through Michael J. Fitzgerald's energy, commitment, leadership, and performance, serious crime in the District of Columbia has plummeted to its lowest level since the 1960s, with crime down in practically every category and in practically every neighborhood, and the number of homicides reduced by more than 60 percent over the past 15 years.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Michael J. Fitzgerald Recognition Resolution of 2006".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia congratulates Michael J. Fitzgerald on his accomplishments and expresses its most sincere best wishes for his continuing success upon his retirement from the Metropolitan Police Department.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.

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A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

16-373

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

December 19, 2006

To recognize and honor Joseph L. Bowser for his many years of community service that has contributed to the quality of life in the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, Joseph L. Bowser has been a resident of Ward 5 for more than 40 years;

WHEREAS, Joseph L. Bowser is a native Washingtonian, born in the LeDroit Park community of the District of Columbia;

WHEREAS, Joseph L. Bowser graduated from Armstrong Senior High School;

WHEREAS, Joseph L. Bowser served his country honorably and retired from the United States Army Reserves after 20 years of service as a drill sergeant;

WHEREAS, Joseph L. Bowser retired with 44 years of distinguished service as a facilities manager for the District of Columbia Public Schools;

WHEREAS, Joseph L. Bowser, in 1976, was elected as one of the first Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners in the District of Columbia, served for more than 30 years with and was a former chair and treasurer for Advisory Neighborhood Commission 5A, and was a member of the Kiwanis Club;

WHEREAS, Joseph L. Bowser has been an unwavering advocate for his North Michigan Park neighbors and the entire Ward 5 community;

WHEREAS, Joseph L. Bowser is a longstanding member of St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Ward 5; and

WHEREAS, Joseph L. Bowser has enjoyed 46 years of marriage with his wife Joan and is the proud parent of 5 adult children and 5 grandchildren.

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RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Joseph L. Bowser Recognition Resolution of 2006".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes and honors Joseph L. Bowser for his outstanding efforts and dedicated service to family, friends, and the citizens of the District of Columbia.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.