

RESOLUTION TO HONOR THE MEMORY OF THE LATE GEORGE
ROBERT JOHNSON, JR.

WHEREAS, on November 15, 2020 the Greensboro community lost one of its outstanding leaders with the passing of the late George Robert Johnson, Jr., born in Columbus, Georgia on February 25, 1951 after a brave battle with lung cancer;

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson attended Muscogee County public schools in Columbus, Georgia; and graduated as the class valedictorian from Carver High School in 1969;

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson continued his educational track at Amherst College, Amherst, Massachusetts, in 1973, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree Cum Laude in American Studies;

WHEREAS, while at Amherst College he played an active role in the Afro American Society; served as Vice Chair of the college newspaper, The Amherst Student; was representative of the graduation class by speaking during the commencement exercises; and earned a Juris Doctorate in 1976 from the prestigious Columbia Law School, New York, New York;

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson began a legal career as Assistant Counsel for the United States House of Representatives, Committee on Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs; and was welcomed by the Carter Administration to the Executive Office of the President as Assistant General Counsel for the White House Council on Wage and Price Stability in 1979;

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson began a teaching career at George Mason University School of Law, Fairfax, Virginia, in 1981; joined Howard University School of Law, Washington, D.C. as a visiting professor in 1988; served as President of LeMoyne-Owen College in Memphis, Tennessee from 1996 to 2002; conducted collegiate searches for Presidents, Chancellors, and Senior Administrators while working as a Senior Consultant with Academic Search Consultation Service in Washington, D.C., the nation's oldest and largest Executive search firm; and entered a private law practice at Saint Louis & Johnson, Washington, D.C. in 2003;

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson partnered with the founding faculty of Elon University School of Law in 2006; served as the first Associate Dean of Academic Affairs; was named Dean of Elon University School of Law in 2009; received full accreditation from the American Bar Association during his tenure at Elon University School of Law; served as a mentor to its law students; and was named as Dean Emeritus in 2015;

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson held memberships with the District of Columbia Bar Association; the Fellow of the American Bar Association; the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity; and the Beta Epsilon Boule of Sigma Pi Phi;

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson served as Board Chair of the National Center for Community and Justice (NCCJ) Greensboro; sat on both the Triad Stage and Greensboro College Boards, as well as his alma mater, Amherst College;

WHEREAS, as a devout Christian, Mr. Johnson Chaired the Deacon Board of Shiloh Baptist Church, Washington, D.C., as well as serving on the Board of Trustees; and he was a member of the Deacon Board at Providence Baptist Church; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREENSBORO:

1. That the City Council wishes to express its condolences, and offer its sincere appreciation and gratitude for the many years of dedicated public service of the late George Robert Johnson, Jr. His legacy will be remembered by the outstanding contributions he made.
2. That a copy of this resolution shall be delivered to the family of the late George Robert Johnson, Jr. as a symbol of the gratitude of the people of Greensboro for his devoted support and contributions to the community.