

**RESOLUTION \_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF  
WILLA D. JOHNSON**

**WHEREAS**, Willa Johnson served as Oklahoma County Commissioner for District 1 for ten years; and

**WHEREAS**, Willa Johnson served as a civilian at Tinker Air Force base for 20 years; and,

**WHEREAS**, Willa Johnson was the first Black woman elected to the Oklahoma City Council and served in that role for nearly 15 years; and,

**WHEREAS**, Willa Johnson dedicated nearly 50 years of her life to public service to our community; and,

**WHEREAS**, among her numerous accomplishments on the City Council, Willa Johnson was responsible for the redevelopment of the Jimmy Stewart Golf Course, expansion of Edwards Park to include a fishing lake, numerous projects to support OKC's Adventure District, economic development efforts along NE 23rd street, as well as efforts to establish MAPS, which has transformed OKC into a "big league city"; and

**WHEREAS**, while serving as County Commissioner, Willa Johnson accomplished many things that benefited the residents of Oklahoma County, including but not limited to completing the Eastern Oklahoma County Turnpike Gate, acquiring the Krowse Building from Oklahoma City, creating a bond fund for hazard mitigation in Crutch, and converting the empty GM plant into the Tinker Aerospace Complex; and,

**WHEREAS**, Willa Johnson worked for our community outside of her official roles including, serving as the first director of the St. John Missionary Baptist Youth Choir, being a founding member of the Oklahoma Chapter of the "Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.", and founding First Tee of Metropolitan Oklahoma City; and,

**WHEREAS**, Willa Johnson served as a member of nearly 25 boards, commissions, and trusts, including the YWCA, Neighborhood Services Organization, Urban League of Oklahoma City, Black Liberated Arts Organization, Friends of Ralph Ellison Library, and Campfire Girls; and,

**WHEREAS**, Willa Johnson was inducted into the Oklahoma Women's Hall of Fame, the African American Hall of Fame, and the Oklahoma City Public Schools Foundation Wall of Fame; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of County Commissioners of Oklahoma County recognizes and honors the exemplary life and service of former County Commissioner Willa D. Johnson.

**APPROVED** this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June 2022

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

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Member

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Member

ATTEST:

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David B. Hooten, County Clerk