

BY ALDS. COGGS, HAMILTON, STAMPER, BORKOWSKI, WITKOWSKI, PÉREZ, LEWIS, RAINEY, JOHNSON

Resolution expressing condolences to the family and friends of Brigadier General Robert A. Cocroft, who passed from this life on September 12, 2018.

WHEREAS,

BRIGADIER GENERAL ROBERT A. COCROFT

passed from this life at the age of 71 on September 12, 2018, and funeral services were held on September 22, 2018 at Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church, 1345 W. Burleigh St.; and

WHEREAS, *Born in Conway, Mississippi, to Willie Tilmon Cocroft and Louise Cocroft (Gee) on November 16, 1946, Brigadier General Robert A. Cocroft moved to Milwaukee with his family in 1947 as an infant ; and*

WHEREAS, *Brigadier General Robert A. Cocroft was a student and football player at University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh until he was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1966 and trained to become an infantry officer, and later earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Agricultural Business Management, and Master of Arts Degree in Public Policy and Administration both from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and attended Officer Candidate School, U.S. Army Paratrooper Airborne School, and the U.S. Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania; and*

WHEREAS, *Brigadier General Robert Cocroft proudly served his country, living and serving valiantly for 40 years in the active military and reserves before retiring in 2006 as the assistant division commander for the Army's 98th Infantry Division, and during his career commanded at the company, battalion and brigade levels; and*

WHEREAS, *Through the combined efforts of Brigadier General Robert Cocroft, Willie Sims, and Thomas Wynn (deceased) the National Association of Black Veterans (NABVETS) was established in 1973, and currently has chapters in 80 cities throughout the United States of which he was the immediate past National Commander, and NABVETS continues its advocacy on behalf of its membership with Congress, the federal administration, state, county, and city legislators, and is certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs as a claims representative for veterans; and*

WHEREAS, *Brigadier General Robert Cocroft served as the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs deputy secretary for 9 years and also served as President and CEO of the Center for Veterans Issues in Milwaukee for 14 years, providing support and housing services to low-income, homeless, minority and women veterans and their families; and*

WHEREAS, *A devoted member of Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church, Brigadier General Robert Cocroft leaves to cherish his memory his wife Jacquie, and his two children Robert and Dianna, adopted daughter Annette, nine grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and a host of other loving relatives and friends; now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED, *That the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee herewith expresses its condolences to the family and friends of Brigadier General Robert A. Cocroft, recognizes his lasting impact on his community and the nation, and mourns with deep sorrow the passing of this fine, upstanding man; and, be it*

FURTHER RESOLVED, *That a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Brigadier General Robert A. Cocroft.*

Introduced by Common Council members Milele A. Coggs, Ashanti Hamilton, Russell W. Stamper, II, Mark A. Borkowski, Terry L. Witkowski, José G. Pérez, Chantia Lewis, Khalif J. Rainey and Cavalier Johnson and approved by all members of the Milwaukee Common Council on September 25, 2018.