

BY ALDS. HAMILTON, KOVAC, COGGS, WADE, STAMPER, PEREZ, WITKOWSKI

Resolution recognizing Bakir and Tahirah Muhammad for their contributions to the Islamic community as the founding family of Islam in Wisconsin.

WHEREAS,

BAKIR AND TAHIRAH MUHAMMAD

were honored at the Call to Unity Banquet: Tribute to the Nation of Islam Pioneers in Milwaukee on February 20, 2015 at the Wisconsin Black Historical Museum, 2620 W. Center St., for their contributions to the Islamic Community of Milwaukee ; and

***WHEREAS,** Thelma X McKinney (Tahirah Muhammad) and Baker X Donahue (Bakir Muhammad) were pioneers of the Nation of Islam in Milwaukee, the third oldest Islamic community in the United States and the founding family of Islam in Wisconsin; and*

***WHEREAS,** Tahirah Muhammad, Bakir Muhammad and their family were some of the earliest followers of Master W. D. Fard Muhammad and the Honorable Elijah Muhammad in 1935, and later established Muhammad Mosque, formerly known as Temple #3; and*

***WHEREAS,** Tahirah and Bakir Muhammad's sacrifice to establish Islam in the state of Wisconsin led them to suffer harassment and to be misunderstood, but they used this opportunity to grow this small religious movement into an example of Black consciousness and self-sufficiency that included the Mosque in Milwaukee and satellite cities in Racine, Beloit and Madison, an independent school, several restaurants, a grocery store, a clothing store, businesses and farmland; and*

***WHEREAS,** Tahirah and Bakir Muhammad's efforts have produced many pillars of the community who remain steadfast in their quest to improve the lives of Black Milwaukee and continue their legacy, including the followers of Imam W. D. Mohammed and the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan; now, therefore, be it*

***RESOLVED,** That the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee herewith recognizes Sister Tahirah and Minister Bakir Muhammad for leadership and contribution to the Islamic Community of Milwaukee, and wishes for success in all their future endeavors; and, be it*

***FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to Tahirah and Bakir Muhammad.*

Introduced by Common Council members Ashanti Hamilton, Nik Kovac, Milele A. Coggs, Willie C. Wade, Russell W. Stamper, II, Terry L. Witkowski and José G. Pérez and approved by all members of the Milwaukee Common Council on March 3, 2015.