

BY ALDS. STAMPER, COGGS, HAMILTON, JOHNSON, BORKOWSKI, SPIKER, PEREZ, LEWIS, RAINEY, DODD

Resolution expressing condolences to the family and friends of Irie D. Grant.

WHEREAS,

IRIE D. GRANT

passed from this life during December 2019, and services were held for family and friends on January 4, 2020; and

WHEREAS, *Irie D. Grant was born on November 12, 1942 in Belzoni, Mississippi, to Rosie Zena and Jesse Grant, the youngest of three children, and relocated with family to Milwaukee following his mother's death in 1948; and*

WHEREAS, *Irie D. Grant attended Milwaukee Public Schools, graduating from North Division High School in 1961 after excelling in academics and athletics, and went on to Carroll College on a basketball scholarship where he was All-Conference for four years and the leading scorer in the state for two years, and making the small college All American team his senior year before graduating in 1966 (in 1976 he was inducted into the Carroll College Hall of Fame); and*

WHEREAS, *Irie served as a Milwaukee Public Schools teacher at Roosevelt Middle School and as an Assistant Coach at North Division High School and soon left teaching and began working at Equitable Financial Services in Milwaukee, where he earned high honors and was among the first Black Agency Managers at Equitable. (circa 1972) and earned the Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT) Achievement; and*

WHEREAS, *Irie served as a North Milwaukee State Bank Board Director (1971 Founding Director and Principle Investor) and was proud of his role at the first Black-owned Bank in Wisconsin with a mission to facilitate underserved communities' (individuals and businesses) economic development and growth and financial education, and his personal commitment to the businesses and individuals of Milwaukee's under-served and under-represented minority communities was exemplified in the service and support he provided throughout his professional career; and*

WHEREAS, *Irie D. Grant served many civic and community organizations, including the Milwaukee Urban League, the Opportunities Industrialization Center (OIC), Social Development Commission (SDC), Career Youth Development (CYD), Center for Veterans Issues (CVI), and the Cream City Medical Society; and*

WHEREAS, *Irie D. Grant was proud to help North Division High School, and he provided the seed money to start the North Division Hall of Fame and build the donor board (he was inducted in 2013) and also made financial contributions to support scholarships that helped North Division graduates attend college; now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED, *That the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee herewith expresses its condolences to the family and friends of Irie D. Grant, 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 Irie D. Grant.*

Introduced by Common Council members Russell W. Stamper, II, Milele A. Coggs, Ashanti Hamilton, Cavalier Johnson, Mark A. Borkowski, Scott Spiker, José G. Pérez, Chantia Lewis, Khalif J. Rainey and Nikiya Dodd and approved by all members of the Milwaukee Common Council on February 11, 2020.