

RESOLUTION NUMBER 109

WHEREAS, we pause in our deliberations to note the untimely passing of St. Louis resident, Laurel Renee Allen (Lori); and

WHEREAS, Laurel Renee Allen (Lori) was born on April 22, 1970 to Julia (Judy) and Kenneth at Deaconess Hospital. Lori learned at an early age the importance of setting goals and giving back. Lori was educated at Crossroads School and Rosati Kain High School. While at Rosati, Lori became class president, an academic scholar, and an all star women's basketball player. She was chosen to the Earl Austin Jr.'s All Star Metro Girl's Basketball Team during her senior year at Rosati; and

WHEREAS, after her high school career ended, Lori attended Regis University in Denver, Colorado on a four year academic and basketball scholarship. While at Regis she met Coach Lonnie Porter, coach of the men's basketball team. Coach Porter became her mentor and friend. Lori attended Regis for two years and during this time Coach Porter encouraged Lori to finish college and if she had the opportunity, to help other student-athletes. Lori received her bachelor's degree from Fontbonne University and helped many student-athletes during her life's journey; and

WHEREAS, Lori was a police officer for the University City Police Department for five years. She received an award from the Mental Health Association of Metropolitan St Louis for persuading a woman not to commit suicide. Lori coached a championship girl's basketball team at Mathew - Dickey Girls and Boys Club. She was also a summer camp counselor for the YMCA's summer camp program at Flynn Park School in University City; and

WHEREAS, Lori, who never said no to anyone, became the Civic and Volunteer Coordinator for her friend Demetrious Johnson's Charitable Foundation. During the four years with the foundation she helped to create the "Read to Achieve Program." While working with Demetrious, Lori decided to start her own charitable foundation, the "Pursuit of Excellence Foundation." The purpose of the foundation is to provide support and mentorship to high school student-athletes, with the transition from high school sports through their college athletic careers. She wanted student-athletes to become productive citizens and not to forget to help someone along life's journey. Upon leaving the DJCF she went to work for Mentor St. Louis until her untimely death; and

WHEREAS, Lori passed peacefully on Thursday, June 5, 2008. She leaves behind a loving mother, Julia; brother, Xavier; aunt Bobbie; uncles Rennie and Cecil. A devoted and loving uncle, Michael Coleman; step-mother, Clara Coleman; two sisters, Khara and Myia Coleman and a host of cousins, relatives, and friends.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause to remember the many contributions of Laurel Allen. to the citizens of the City of St. Louis and we join with her many friends in expressing our sorrow at her passing, and we further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a memorial copy for presentation to the Allen family, at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 13th day of June, 2008 by:

Honorable Samuel L. Moore Alderman 4th Ward

Adopted this the 13th day of June, 2008 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen

