

20R-08

Sponsors:
Councilwoman Katrina Alexander
Councilwoman at Large
Councilman Barry Tyler, Jr.
Councilman, 3rd District

RESOLUTION NO. 808

Resolution to Honor the Nine fraternities and Sororities Known as "the Divine Nine" for Service to the Community

WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. was the first Black intercollegiate Greek-letter fraternity. It was founded on December 4, 1906 at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. The seven visionary founders, known as the "Jewels" of the fraternity, are Henry Arthur Callis, Charles Henry Chapman, Eugene Kinckle Jones, George Biddle Kelley, Nathaniel Allison Murray, Robert Harold Ogle, and Vertner Woodson Tandy. Since its founding on December 4, 1906, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. has supplied voice and vision to the struggle of African Americans and people of color around the world. The fraternity initially served as a study and support group for minority students who faced racial prejudice, both educationally and socially, at Cornell. The Jewel founders and early leaders of the fraternity succeeded in laying a firm foundation for Alpha Phi Alpha's principles of scholarship, fellowship, good character, and the uplifting of humanity.

WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. is the first Greek letter organization in the United States established by Black college women. It was founded January 15, 1908 at Howard University by Anna Easter Brown, Beulah Burke, Lillie Burke, Marjorie Hill, Margaret Flagg Holmes, Ethel Hedgeman (Lyle), Lavinia Norman, Lucy Diggs Slowe, Marie Woolfolk (Taylor), Norma Boyd, Ethel Jones (Mowbray), Alice Murray, Sarah Meriweather (Nutter), Joanna Berry (Shields), Carrie Snowden and Harriet Terry. Alpha Kappa Alpha is a sisterhood composed of women who have consciously chosen this affiliation as a means of self-fulfillment through volunteer service. The sorority cultivates and encourages high scholastic and ethical standards; promotes unity and friendship among college women; alleviates problems concerning girls and women; maintains a progressive interest in college life; and serves all mankind.

WHEREAS, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. is a historically African-American collegiate Greek-letter fraternity founded on January 5, 1911 at Indiana University Bloomington. The fraternity has never limited membership based on color, creed or national origin. Kappa Alpha Psi was founded by Elder Watson Diggs, Dr. Ezra D. Alexander, Dr. Byron Kenneth Armstrong, Atty. Henry Tourner Asher, Dr. Marcus Peter Blakemore, Paul Waymond Caine, George Wesley Edmonds, Dr. Guy Levis Grant, Edward Giles Irvin, and Sgt. John Milton Lee. The fraternity sponsors programs providing community service, social welfare and academic scholarship through the *Kappa Alpha Psi Foundation* and is a supporter of the United Negro College Fund and Habitat for Humanity.

WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. is an international historically African-American Greek-letter fraternity with over 750 undergraduate and graduate chapters. The fraternity was founded on November 17, 1911 by three Howard University juniors, Edgar Amos Love, Oscar J. Cooper and Frank Coleman, and their faculty adviser, Dr. Ernest Everett Just. Omega Psi Phi is the first predominantly African-American fraternity to be founded at a historically black university. Its stated purpose has been to attract and build a strong and effective force of handsome men dedicated to its Cardinal Principles of Manhood, scholarship, perseverance, and uplift.

WHEREAS, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. was founded on January 13, 1913 by 22 collegiate women, Osceola Macarthy Adams, Marguerite Young Alexander, Winona Cargile Alexander, Ethel Cuff Black, Bertha Pitts Campbell, Zephyr Chisom Carter, Edna Brown Coleman, Jessie McGuire Dent, Frederica Chase Dodd, Myra Davis Hemmings, Olive Claire Jones, Jimmie Bugg Middleton, Pauline Oberdorfer Minor, Vashti Turley Murphy, Naomi Sewell Richardson, Mammie Reddy Rose, Eliza Pearl Shippen, Florence Letcher Toms, Ethel Carr Watson, Wertie Blackwell Weaver, Madree Penn White, and Edith Motte Young, at Howard University. These students wanted to use their collective strength to promote academic excellence and to provide assistance to those in need. In March of 1913, the Founders of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. performed their first public act by participating in the Women's Suffrage March in Washington, D.C. Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. was later incorporated in 1930.

WHEREAS, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. is a historically African-American collegiate and professional Greek letter fraternity. It was founded at Howard University in Washington, D.C. on January 9, 1914, by three young African-American male students. The fraternity's founders, Abram Langston Taylor, Leonard Frances Morse, and Charles Ignatius Brown, wanted to organize a Greek letter fraternity that would exemplify the ideals of *Brotherhood, Scholarship and Service* while taking an inclusive perspective to serving the community as opposed to having an exclusive purpose.

WHEREAS, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. is an international, historically black Greek-lettered sorority. It was founded in 1920 at Howard University by five women; Arizona Cleaver Stemons, Pearl Anna Neal, Myrtle Tyler Faithful, Viola Tyler Goings and Fannie Pettie Watts. They envisioned a sorority that would raise the consciousness of their people, encourage the highest standards of scholastic achievement, and foster a greater sense of unity among its members. These women believed that sorority elitism and socializing overshadowed the real mission for progressive organizations. Since its founding Zeta Phi Beta has historically focused on addressing social causes.

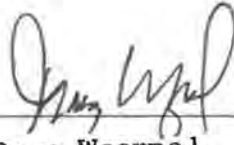
WHEREAS, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. was founded on November 12, 1922, at Butler University in Indianapolis, Indiana by seven young educators; Mary Lou Allison Gardner Little, Dorothy Hanley Whiteside, Vivian White Marbury, Nannie Mae Gahn Johnson, Hattie Mae Annette Dulin Redford, Bessie Mae Downey Rhoades Martin and Cubena McClure. The sorority is a non-profit whose aim is to enhance the quality of life for women and their families in the U.S. and globally through community service, civil, and social action. Their goal is to achieve greater progress in the areas of education, health awareness, and leadership development. Founded in the midst of segregation, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. is the only sorority of the four historically African-American sororities which comprise the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) established at a predominantly white campus. Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. is a leading national service organization that has met the challenges of the day and continues to grow through Sisterhood, Scholarship and Service.

WHEREAS, Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc. is the youngest of the "Divine Nine" Black Greek organizations and the last to be accepted into the National Pan-Hellenic Council. On September 19, 1963, at Morgan State College (now Morgan State University), 12 students founded what is now the nation's fifth largest, predominately African-American social service fraternity. The founders are Albert Hicks, Lonnie Spruill, Jr., Charles Briscoe, Frank Coakley, John Slade, Barron Willis, Webster Lewis, Charles Brown, Louis Hudnell, Charles Gregory, Elias Dorsey, Jr., and Michael Williams. It was founded as a support system for men of color in the era's turbulent social climate. It was established with the following purpose: "The development and perpetuation of Scholarship, Leadership, Citizenship, Fidelity, and Brotherhood among Men."

WHEREAS, these fraternities and sororities which have distinguished themselves by their service to the communities are known as the "divine nine" and should be recognized for their contributions to society by the Common Council


THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAMMOND, on behalf of the people of the City of Hammond that it recognizes the Divine Nine for their service to our community and to the whole nation.

ADOPTED by the Common Council of the City of Hammond, on the 25th day of February, 2020.



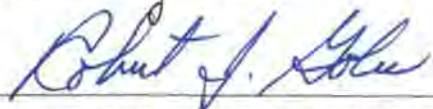
Dave Woerpel, _____ President

ATTEST:




Robert J. Golec, City Clerk

PRESENTED BY ME, the undersigned City Clerk of the City of Hammond, to the Mayor of said City for his approval on the 25th day of February, 2020.



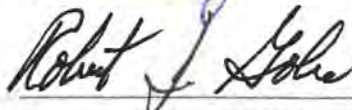
Robert J. Golec, City Clerk

The foregoing Resolution No. R08 consisting of 4 pages, including this page
Approved by the Mayor on the 25th day of February, 2020.



THOMAS M. McDERMOTT, JR., MAYOR
City of Hammond, Indiana

ADOPTED by the Common Council on the 24th day of February, 2020, and
Approved by the Mayor on the 25th day of February, 2020.



Robert J. Golec, City Clerk