

## **Memorial Resolution** **Deralyn Mozell Riles Davis**

**WHEREAS**, the family and friends of Deralyn Mozell Riles Davis were deeply saddened by her death on Saturday, March 9, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, the passing of Deralyn Davis, took from our community an exceptional trailblazer, educator, mentor, wife, and mother who touched the lives of many; and

**WHEREAS**, Deralyn Davis was born on December 23, 1934 in Corsicana, Texas, graduated valedictorian from Butler College High School Department in Tyler, Texas, received a Bachelor of Science Degree from Tillotson College, and a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree from the University of Texas at Arlington; and

**WHEREAS**, Deralyn Davis began her career as an educator at Lincoln High School in Dallas, Texas in 1954, joined the faculty of George Washington Carver Elementary School in 1955, the Wilmer-Hutchins Independent School District in 1961, and served as an educator in the Arlington Independent School District from 1963 until 1965; and

**WHEREAS**, Deralyn Davis was initiated as a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Alpha Nu Chapter while attending Tillotson College, transferred to the Beta Mu Omega Chapter in 1962 where she served a two-year term as President and 14<sup>th</sup> South Central Regional Director, and achieved Life Member status in 1976; and

**WHEREAS**, Deralyn Davis owned and operated DRD Bookkeeping & Tax Service, Davis & Associates Real Estate, Deralyn Riles Davis Associates consulting firm, and remained active in her community by serving on the City of Fort Worth Community Development Council, Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women, United Way of Tarrant County, was appointed to the Texas Board of Criminal Justice by Governor Mark White, served as an alternate delegate to the Democratic National Convention in New York in 1975, served as Vice Chair of the Texas Democratic Party in 1978, and served as Chair of the Texas Coalition of Black Democrats; and

**WHEREAS**, Deralyn Davis has received numerous civic recognitions including the Texas Legislative Black Caucus Outstanding Texan Award, the Tarrant County College W.A.V.E Award, and was honored by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated as a "Golden Member" for 50 years of service and as a "Pearl Member" for more than 65 years of service; and

**WHEREAS**, Deralyn Mozell Riles Davis leaves a legacy of love as she is survived by daughter, Jefflyn Dorsai, grandsons, Jefferson Davis, III, Jordan Daniel Davis, and a host of other loving relatives and friends.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the Commissioners Court of Tarrant County, pay tribute to the memory of a Beloved and Honorable Woman, recognize the contributions she has made to the citizens of Tarrant County, and extend our deepest sympathy to the members of her family and her many friends for their great loss.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, we have hereunto set our hands and caused the Seal of Tarrant County to be affixed this 2nd day of April 2024.

(Over entire Court signatures)