

2015-J4091

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending the William M. Moss Brotherhood of Concord Baptist Church of Christ in Brooklyn, New York, upon the occasion of hosting its 61st Annual Brotherhood Awards Banquet, and paying tribute to this year's honorees

WHEREAS, Religious institutions, and the many spiritual, social and educational benefits they confer, play a vital role in the development of the moral fabric of a responsible citizenry; and

WHEREAS, It is the tradition of this State and this Nation to pay tribute to those institutions and individuals who have contributed to the ethical and spiritual values of their communities; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body takes pleasure in commending the William M. Moss Brotherhood of Concord Baptist Church of Christ, in Brooklyn, New York, upon the occasion of hosting its 61st Annual Brotherhood Awards Banquet, and paying tribute to this year's honorees on Friday, February 26, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Outstanding individuals who have received this prestigious honor include distinguished and nationally known activist ministers, community leaders, educators, and public servants; and

WHEREAS, This year's honorees include: Charles F. Coleman, Jr. Esq., and Dordy Jourdain; and

WHEREAS, Charles F. Coleman, Jr. is a well-known civil rights attorney who specializes in EEO law, human resources solutions, and the support of diversity and inclusion efforts in the workforce; as a former Brooklyn, New York, prosecutor turned civil litigator, he has extensive experience as a trial lawyer and his courtroom expertise is matched only by his leadership abilities, which he displays through his community mobilization and civic activism efforts; and

WHEREAS, Charles F. Coleman, Jr. has appeared internationally on vari-

ous media outlets as a legal and political analyst, writer, and orator; he has been branded as one of the brightest and most well-respected voices in conversations on law, civil rights, criminal justice, and other issues affecting communities of color by giving public talks to businesses, student groups, and other organizations on law, culture, diversity, politics, and social justice issues; and

WHEREAS, Charles F. Coleman, Jr. began his esteemed legal career as a prosecutor in the Kings County District Attorney's Office; while there, he was hand-picked to join the specialized Gangs Unit where he prosecuted some of the city's most dangerous and violent criminals in several high profile cases; and

WHEREAS, For his efforts as a trial attorney and commitment to justice, Charles F. Coleman, Jr. was awarded the 2007 Law Enforcement Appreciation Award for excellence and leadership in law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, While working at the District Attorney's office, Charles F. Coleman, Jr. noticed that he was faced with prosecuting a disproportionate number of young people for very serious crimes; he soon discovered that many of these young people lacked direction and strong support systems, and subsequently, he established EDGE Movement NYC; and

WHEREAS, EDGE is an acronym for Empower, Develop, Grow, and Education; this worthy program continues to inspire and encourage the next generation of leaders while serving to shed light on the need for more positive examples of manhood for young men while galvanizing the community toward action; and

WHEREAS, Since leaving the District Attorney's office, Charles F. Coleman, Jr. has transitioned to the arena of civil rights, focusing primarily on EEO law while helping to provide diversity and inclusion support to companies seeking to improve their workforce; and

WHEREAS, Born in Haiti, Dordy Jourdain received an Associate's degree in Business Administration from Borough of Manhattan Community College; he then went on to earn his Bachelor's degree in Political Science from

City College of the City University of New York; and

WHEREAS, Dordy Jourdain began his two decade career with the YMCA in Harlem, New York; he then held the position of Executive Director of the Flatbush YMCA; during this time, he created innovative community based partnerships, and youth and teen programs that connected young people to local business professionals and community leaders, helping to transform their lives; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Dordy Jourdain revitalized the Flatbush YMCA's early childhood music program which can enrich students' lives and education; and

WHEREAS, Since 2008, Dordy Jourdain has held the distinguished position of Executive Director of the Bedford-Stuyvesant YMCA; in this capacity, he is responsible for overseeing the branch's daily operations including membership, youth programming, facility management, finance, board and volunteer development, and fund development; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his 20 year career at YMCA, Dordy Jourdain has been credited with improving struggling branches, building branch financial success, developing resources and alliances with government agencies, legislators and non-profit organizations, and generating funds to support youth programming and community development; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his exceptional work at the YMCA, Dordy Jourdain serves as the Chair of DREAM Board of Directors; he also is a vital member of the Boys and Girls High School Advisory Committee, and the Association of YMCA Professionals, as well as the Executive Leadership Institute; and

WHEREAS, Under the luminous direction of President Dr. Clarence Evans and Senior Pastor Reverend Dr. Gary Simpson, the William M. Moss Brotherhood of Concord Baptist Church of Christ stands on the threshold of tomorrow, prepared to meet the challenges of the coming decades while retaining that spiritual resolve which characterizes its past; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to take note of enduring religious institutions and to bring such institutions to the

attention of the people of this Empire State; now, therefore, be it
RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to
commend the William M. Moss Brotherhood of Concord Baptist Church of
Christ, in Brooklyn, New York, upon the occasion of hosting its 61st
Annual Brotherhood Awards Banquet, and paying tribute to this year's

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honorees; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to President Dr. Clarence Evans and Senior Pastor Reverend Dr. Gary Simpson, the William M. Moss Brotherhood of Concord Baptist Church of Christ, Brooklyn, New York, and the aforementioned honorees.