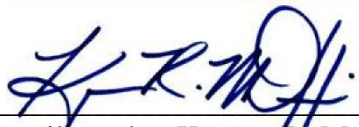
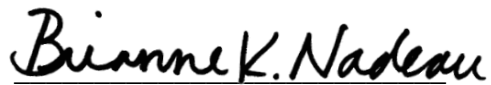



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Chairman Phil Mendelson



Councilmember Kenyan R. McDuffie

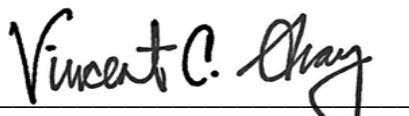

Councilmember Brianne K. Nadeau


Councilmember Charles Allen

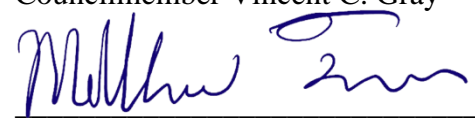

Councilmember Zachary Parker



Councilmember Christina Henderson

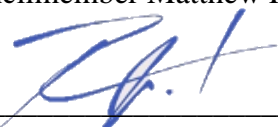

Councilmember Trayon White, Sr.


Councilmember Vincent C. Gray


Councilmember Janeese Lewis George


Councilmember Matthew Frumin


Councilmember Anita Bonds


Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.


Councilmember Brooke Pinto

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To recognize, honor, and congratulate the Howard University Men’s Basketball team for their first NCAA Tournament appearance since 1992.

WHEREAS, Howard University is located alongside Georgia Avenue in Ward 1, with its university motto being ‘excellence in truth and service’;

47
48 WHEREAS, Howard University, prior to the season entered into a 20-year partnership with
49 Jordan Brand, making Howard the only Division 1 HBCU to have one;

50
51 WHEREAS, Howard University Men's Basketball team won their first outright Mid-
52 Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) regular season championship since 1987;

53
54 WHEREAS, Howard University Men's Basketball team won their first MEAC
55 Tournament championship since 1992;

56
57 WHEREAS, Howard University Men's Basketball team won 22 games which is the
58 second-most in program history;

59
60 WHEREAS, Howard University Men's Basketball team had back-to-back winning seasons
61 for the first time since 1986-87 and 1987-88;

62
63 WHEREAS, Howard University Men's Basketball program engaged in a season-long
64 social justice project centered on Black Maternal Health advocacy to honor the legacy of activism
65 at Howard;

66
67 WHEREAS, Howard University Men's Basketball program as part of their advocacy they
68 hosted volunteer events at Mamatoto Village and the DC Diaper Bank, while presenting
69 scholarships to student mothers at Howard;

70
71 WHEREAS, Howard University Men's Basketball program received national recognition
72 for their advocacy from outlets including CNN, Uninterrupted, and The Washington Post;

73
74 WHEREAS, Howard University Men's Basketball team was led by Washington, DC native
75 and Head Coach Kenneth Blakeney who can be credited for the remarkable turnaround of the
76 program;

77
78 WHEREAS, Howard University Men's Basketball Head Coach Kenneth Blakeney was
79 recognized as the John McClendon National Coach of the Year, as well as the MEAC Coach of
80 the Year;

81
82 WHEREAS, Howard University Men's Basketball Head Coach Kenneth Blakeney was
83 assisted by his dedicated coaching staff of Associate Head Coach Rod Balanis, Assistant Coaches
84 Tyler Thornton and Steve Ongley, and Chief Program Strategist Daniel Marks;

85
86 WHEREAS, Howard University Men's Basketball program was supported by 67 student-
87 managers, with roughly 85% of them being females, making them a premier incubator of young
88 African-American sports talent; and

89
90 WHEREAS, Howard University's Men's Basketball championship winning team
91 members include:

92

- 93 #0 Marcus Dockery – Junior
- 94 #1 Khalil Robinson – Senior
- 95 #2 Steve Settle – Redshirt Junior
- 96 #3 Elijah Hawkins – Sophomore
- 97 #4 Miles Stewart – Redshirt Freshman
- 98 #5 Jelani Williams – Graduate Student
- 99 #10 Talin Lewis – Graduate Student
- 100 #11 Ose Okojie – Freshman
- 101 #12 Kobe Dickson – Senior
- 102 #13 Thomas Weaver – Junior
- 103 #14 Ayodele Taiwo – Redshirt Freshman
- 104 #15 Reece Brown – Junior
- 105 #22 Shyheim Odom – Freshman
- 106 #24 Jordan Wood – Junior
- 107 #25 Aaron Roberson – Freshman
- 108 #34 Bryce Harris – Sophomore
- 109 #55 Freedom Rhames – Freshman

110

111 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
112 resolution may be cited as the “Howard University Men’s Basketball Championship Recognition
113 Resolution of 2023”.

114

115 Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes and honors the Howard
116 University Men’s Basketball program for winning the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference
117 tournament and for participating in the NCAA Men’s Basketball Tournament for the first time
118 since 1992.

119

120 Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in
121 the District of Columbia Register.