

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

25-82

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

June 6, 2023

To recognize and honor the life and accomplishments Linda Harllee Harper.

WHEREAS, Linda Harllee Harper was born and raised in Washington D.C. and was a lifelong resident of the District who resided in Ward 4;

WHEREAS, Linda Harllee Harper graduated from Jackson Reed High School, formally known as Wilson Senior High School;

WHEREAS, Linda Harllee Harper earned her Bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of The District of Columbia and earned her Master's Degree in Counseling psychology from Trinity Washington University;

WHEREAS, Linda Harllee Harper married her husband Byron Harper on March 24th, 2005;

WHEREAS, Linda Harllee Harper and Byron Harper welcomed their son Blake Harper on September 30th, 2005;

WHEREAS, Linda Harllee Harper began her career in public service in the District of Columbia as a Substance Abuse Prevention Officer at the former Oak Hill Youth Center;

WHEREAS, Linda Harllee Harper worked in both the public sector and non-profit sector throughout her career as an advocacy leader for the reform of the District of Columbia Juvenile Justice System;

WHEREAS, Linda Harllee Harper helped lead the effort to help establish the New Beginning Youth Center to create a more restorative and rehabilitation focused center for the Districts Youth Correctional Center;

WHEREAS, Linda Harllee Harper shared her vision of helping the youth of the District of Columbia with public beyond her role in government on her radio show "Led By Love";

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WHEREAS, Linda Harlee Harper’s leadership in working to create safer communities for District residents led her to hold multiple leadership roles within the District of Columbia government including Deputy Director of the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services, the first Director of the Office of Gun Violence Prevention, and the Director of the Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement;

WHEREAS, Linda Harlee Harper’s leadership of the Office of Gun Violence Prevention improved data collection and transparency around violent crime and advanced interagency collaboration to strategically save thousands of lives in the District of Columbia;

WHEREAS, Linda Harlee Harper has led the Office of Gun Violence Prevention since its founding to have invested more than \$1.5 million in local community startup initiatives to better resource District residents in solving and preventing gun violence in their own neighborhoods;

WHEREAS, Linda Harlee Harper for her years of dedication to her community, family, and friends of her home in the District of Columbia where she shared her passion of helping the most vulnerable of the District community and worked to ensure that they were uplifted through her work.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Linda Harlee Harper Posthumous Ceremonial Resolution of 2023”.

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes and honors Linda Harlee Harper for her years of dedication to the District of Columbia where she led a career of public service focused on helping the District’s most vulnerable residents and solving the epidemic of gun violence.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.