

A CEREMONAL RESOLUTION

25-165

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

January 9, 2024

To recognize and honor the life and accomplishments of Dr. Bertha Holliday.

WHEREAS, Dr. Bertha Holliday was born in Kansas City, Missouri on November 15, 1947;

WHEREAS, Dr. Bertha Holliday walked her first picket line at age 4 to protest her segregated Kindergarten class;

WHEREAS, Dr. Bertha Holliday attended the University of Chicago, where she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology;

WHEREAS, Dr. Bertha Holliday attended Harvard University where she graduated with an EdM in Counselor Education and School Counseling and Guidance Services, and obtained a PhD in Community Psychology at the University of Texas at Austin;

WHEREAS, Dr. Bertha Holliday completed a post-doctoral fellowship in Lifespan Development and Ecological Psychology at Cornell University;

WHEREAS, Dr. Bertha Holliday was on the faculty of the Department of Psychology and Human Development at Vanderbilt University;

WHEREAS, Dr. Bertha Holliday was a community psychologist and known for her activism on ethnic minority issues;

WHEREAS, Dr. Bertha Holliday was Senior Director of the Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs at the American Psychological Association and retired from the office in 2010 after 16 years of service;

WHEREAS, Dr. Bertha Holliday was a Fellow of American Psychological Association's Division 45 (Society for the Psychological Study of Culture, Ethnicity & Race) and received the Distinguished Career Contribution to Service Award in 2001;

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WHEREAS, Dr. Bertha Holliday was awarded the Social Justice Action Award from the Teachers College at Columbia University in 2011;

WHEREAS, Dr. Bertha Holliday was a resident in the neighborhood of Bloomingdale in Ward 5;

WHEREAS, Dr. Bertha Holliday was a Bloomingdale Civic Association Board member for 13 years and served 3 consecutive terms (2017-2022) as an Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner for 5E;

WHEREAS, Dr. Bertha Holliday founded and served as co-Director of the Bloomingdale Civic Association's Bloomingdale Village Square Project through which she helped produce a Bloomingdale oral history film, a Bloomingdale history timeline, and an extensive Bloomingdale design plan and recommendations report, and advocated for the advancement of the North Capitol Street Deckover Park proposal;

WHEREAS, Dr. Bertha Holliday chaired several Bloomingdale House Tours which functioned as fundraisers for the Bloomingdale Civic Association Scholarship Fund;

WHEREAS, Dr. Bertha Holliday passed on December 28, 2023 and leaves a legacy that will live on for generations to come.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Dr. Bertha Holliday Posthumous Recognition Resolution of 2024".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia honors Dr. Bertha Holliday for her years of dedication to her community, family, and friends where she was a leader and pillar of the community.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.