

Gloucester County NAACP #2345 PO Box 545 Williamstown, NJ 08094

Respect, and Honor to Resolution, of

Reverend William Donald Willis

WHEREAS, God, in his infinite wisdom has seen fit to remove from our midst, Reverend William Donald Willis, Assistant Pastor at the First Baptist Church of Jericho, on November 18, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Reverend William Willis, a longtime faithful and committed servant dedicated his life to community and faith; and

WHEREAS, today we celebrate his100 years of life that is filled with inspiring stories and encouraging accounts, and

WHEREAS, Reverend William Willis, a Christian- spirited God fearing man was a devoted and loving husband, a caring and supportive father, a confident and mentor. Reverend Willis was a person who was always available to share an encouraging word and demonstrate strong support to others; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Willis a major local leader of the Civil Rights movement marched on Washington in the summer of 1964 and walked the picket lines with other members of the clergy when Irene Hill-Smith, the leader of the local NAACP chapter at the time, was held in jail. His actions were always demonstrating his love for others and his courage for always doing the right thing no matter what; and

WHEREAS, the Gloucester County NAACP Executive Committee and its members wish to express their deepest respect and sympathy to the family of Reverend William Willis; and

THEREFORE LET IT BE KNOWN, that the Gloucester County NAACP knows the deep loss and sorrow the Willis family is experiencing and want to share in the sorrow but recognize that the Lord has accepted into his presence a good and faithful servant.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Branch 2345 of Gloucester County New Jersey, through its members and Executive Committee do hereby extend its deepest sympathy to the Willis family.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that as a just and lasting tribute to the memory of Reverend William Willis, and as a reminder of the high esteem in which he will be held, by those associated with him, this resolution will be entered in the permanent records of the Gloucester County NAACP and copies furnished to his family.

ADOPTED THIS 22nd day of November 2014, at a Special Executive meeting of the Gloucester County National Association of the Advancement of Colored People Branch 2345.