



PROCLAMATION

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OLA PARKER WILLOUGHBY

WHEREAS, Ola Parker Willoughby born in Reidsville, North Carolina on November 14, 1920 and raised in Wilcoe, West Virginia. She graduated from Bennett College in Greensboro, North Carolina, and subsequently taught there for three years; and

WHEREAS, in 1946 Mrs. Willoughby and her husband Samuel E. Willoughby settled in Arlington, Virginia where they raised their two daughters Cheryl (deceased) and Joyce in a marriage that lasted 59 years and 8 months; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Willoughby worked for the Marine Corps in the position of Deputy Director, Decorations and Medals Division, and in her role as Supervisory Military Personnel Officer, following the passage of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Mrs. Willoughby was instrumental in implementing Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) initiatives and policies within the Marine Corps. She was the first African American to serve as an EEO Officer for the Corps; and

WHEREAS, following her retirement in 1976 after working 30 years for the Marine Corps, Mrs. Willoughby immersed herself in many community activities and served on various community boards and commissions which included being the first African-American Chair of the Arlington County Civil Service Commission, Co-Chair of the Special Committee for Minority Concerns of the Arlington Democratic Committee, and trustee of the Arlington County Retirement Board; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Willoughby has been an active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority for 75 years and has been an active member of the Mount Zion Baptist Church for 72 years where she has served in numerous capacities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Libby Garvey, Chair of the County Board of Arlington, Virginia, do hereby offer best wishes to

OLA PARKER WILLOUGHBY

on the occasion of her 100th birthday and thank her for all her service to the County she calls home.

Libby Garvey
Chair