

A Resolution in Recognition of Sheriff Travis D. Harris, Jr.'s Service to Prince Edward County, Virginia

Whereas: Sheriff Travis D. Harris, Jr.'s life experiences are represented through the Robert Russa Moton Museum's mission "to preserve and positively interpret the history of civil rights in education, specifically as it relates to Prince Edward County and the role its citizens played in America's struggle to move from a segregated to an integrated society," and

Whereas: Sheriff Harris, a county native, began his education in the Prince Edward County Public Schools; an education interrupted by the 1959-64 school closings, and

Whereas: Sheriff Harris along with more than 4,000 others of his generation; some receiving no formal schooling, some receiving a private education, some leaving home for an education, suffered the prolonged loss of locally supported public schools, and

Whereas: Sheriff Harris returned to the classroom in 1963 with the opening of the Prince Edward County "Free Schools" graduating from R. R. Moton High School in 1968, and

Whereas: Sheriff Harris served honorably in the United States Army, capably with the Virginia Division of Capitol Police, and faithfully with the Prince Edward County Sheriff's Office, and

Whereas: Sheriff Harris was elected Sheriff of Prince Edward County in 1999, and was subsequently re-elected in 2003 and 2007, serving county citizens as their chief law enforcement officer for 12 years, and

Whereas: the life experiences of Sheriff Harris portray the life of one who overcame the adversities placed before him in his youth and participated not only in the desegregation of the county's public schools, but also led the desegregation of the ranks of county constitutional officers, and

Whereas: Sheriff Harris by personal example contributed to community reconciliation in the aftermath of the county's Civil Rights struggle.

Therefore, Be it Resolved: that the Robert Russa Moton Museum with fond admiration recognizes and celebrates the service of Sheriff Travis D. Harris, Jr. to Prince Edward County, and

Be it Further Resolved: that a copy of this resolution be presented to Sheriff Harris and that a copy be placed in the permanent record of the Museum.

Signed this Fifteenth day of December, in the Year of our Lord Two Thousand Eleven.

/s/ Robert L. Hamlin

Robert L. Hamlin
President

/s/ Lacy Ward, Jr.

Lacy Ward, Jr.
Director