

RESOLUTION NO. 13-138

WHEREAS, the City Council and the Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, are pleased to honor Mr. Fletcher E. Seldon during Black History Month, 2013. He was the first African American to campaign and win a position on the City's first "elected" Board of Education after initially being appointed to the Board; and,

WHEREAS, after taking the oath of office, he was elected to serve as President of the School Board and was selected for President a second term. After Mr. Seldon's second term as President, he chose not to offer himself for that position again, but did accept the Vice-Presidency. He served nine years on the Huntsville City Board of Education from 1971 until 1980; and,

WHEREAS, he aggressively worked to better the public school system at both local and state levels through advocating improved policies regarding problems in student discipline, improving teacher capabilities, implementing an effective program in school/community relations, and improving employee personnel policies; and,

WHEREAS, Fletcher Seldon was a talented and charismatic community leader. He was active in numerous service organizations providing aid to children, economic development and services to the handicapped. Serving with wisdom, vision, and boundless energy, Mr. Seldon had the unique ability to arrive at solutions to the most pressing problems and to deal fairly with the issues; and,

WHEREAS, he was a thirty-year veteran of military service having actively been involved in World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam Campaign. He held the Bronze Star Medal and numerous other campaign and service awards; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Seldon was on the Executive Staff of the NASA Marshall Space Flight Center and was Chairman of the Huntsville/Madison County Clean Community System to which he was a great contributor. He was particularly effective as chairman of the Municipal Operations Subcommittee known as Government Operations. One of his greatest contributions was to organize the group into a more businesslike form; and,

WHEREAS, Fletcher E. Seldon received his formal education in New York City and Albany, New York, public schools, and attended The University of Alabama Huntsville and Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University specializing in public administration and urban affairs. He taught at Harvard University and Massachusetts [Institute of Technology \(MIT\)](#) in Boston, plus major military schools in the fields of electronics and electronic warfare systems. He was married to the former Ruth Washington of Huntsville, and they had six children.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council and Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, express special thanks and salute the awesome legacy of Mr. Fletcher E. Seldon for his dedicated service and untiring effort to make Huntsville a better community. It is a pleasure to honor his memory during Black History Month, 2013, acknowledging his being the first African American elected to serve on the City of Huntsville's Board of Education.

ADOPTED on this the 28th day of February, 2013.

President of the City Council of the
City of Huntsville, Alabama

APPROVED on this the 28th day of February, 2013.

Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama