

### RESOLUTION NO. 14-3

**WHEREAS**, the City Council and the Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama are apprised of the auspicious celebration honoring Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., on January 20, 2014, sponsored by the Delta Theta Lambda Education Foundation of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Pastor Keith Norman is the keynote speaker at the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Martin Luther King, Jr., Unity Breakfast. The special guest artist will be Mr. Eddie Compton from Montgomery, Alabama. The event will take place in the North Hall of the Von Braun Center at 8:00 a.m., and,

**WHEREAS**, Keith Norman is the Pastor of First Baptist Church, located in the Binghampton community of Memphis, Tennessee. He is the shepherd of a ministry that is dedicated to serving a predominantly African-American community in transition, a community currently targeted for revitalization in housing, education, and crime prevention; and,

**WHEREAS**, during First Baptist's long history of service to this community, Pastor Norman has been successful in implementing an on-going campaign of community revitalization and strategic planning for future generations of FBC, including the completion of a \$2 million dollar Multi-Purpose Family Life/Worship Facility in 2003 and the completion of a \$6 million dollar Sanctuary and Chapel in 2012. This vision-inspired ministry also purchase and renovated a 50,000-square-foot abandoned building, known as *The H.O.P.E. Zone* (Haven of Perfective Empowerment). *The H.O.P.E. Zone* will be dedicated to Christian education, senior living, temporary housing for the homeless and other much-needed ministry and services for the people of God and the community at large. As founder and principal officer of GREATER WORKS, Inc., he continues to emphasize organizational management aimed at empowering the church in action and optimum service to the community; and,

**WHEREAS**, in addition to his pastoral duties, Pastor Norman is a much-sought-after guest speaker, evangelist, and lecturer, who has an extensive speaking schedule throughout the United States and abroad. Preaching and teaching opportunities (2006-2009) occurred in Guyana, South America, Jamaica and The West Indies, Patmos, Ephesus, Delphi, Thessaloniki, Athens, Lagos, Nigeria, Tel Aviv, Tiberias, and ultimately, Jerusalem. Locally, he is the past state president of the Tennessee Baptist Missionary and Education Congress and past Dean of Christian Education for the Greater Memphis Sunday School and Nurture for Baptist Churches Congress. In 2009, he completed training for the Critical Incident Stress Debriefing Training and now serves as a Chaplain with the Law Enforcement Chaplains Corp of the Shelby County Sheriff's Department, Board of Directors of the Memphis Shelby Crime Commission, and is currently a consultant for the Memphis Police Department. Also, he serves as Co-Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Shelby County Health Care Corporation (THE MED), and serves as a Tennessee Bureau of Ethics and Campaign Finance Commissioner; and,

**WHEREAS**, as past Chairman of the Shelby County Democratic Party, Pastor Norman served as an Obama Delegate to the 2008 Democratic National Convention. Presently, he serves as President of the Memphis NAACP and has also served as Religious Affairs Chair. In addition, he serves as the TN State Conference NAACP Religious Affairs Chairman and recently was elected to the Special Contribution Fund Board of Trustees; and,

**WHEREAS**, Pastor Norman is a graduate of Morehouse College (1987). He has completed the Institute of Church Administration and Management Program at the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC) (2004). He has received honors and studied community revitalization and church/corporate partnerships at Harvard Divinity School (2006) as well as the Invitation Strategies for Church and Community Partnership, Wharton School of Business - University of Pennsylvania. Pastor Norman is currently enrolled at Memphis Theological Seminary pursuing a Doctorate in the Ministry Program - Leadership. He is a 2010 Presidents Volunteer Service Award recipient and a member of the 2009 Leadership Memphis Class, as well as the 2010 Memphis Leadership Academy. On April 4, 2012, Pastor Norman was awarded the "Champion of Change" award as part of President Obama's *Winning the Future* Initiative. October 2, 2012, Pastor Norman was awarded the Bishop Carroll T. Dozier Peace and Justice Award by Christian Brother University; and,

**WHEREAS**, Pastor Norman is a native Memphian, son of Zella Cathey; married to Alicia Yvette White Norman, and father of four children - Keith, KeAsia, Keenan, and Kiara.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council and Mayor or the City of Huntsville, Alabama express special thanks to Delta Theta Lambda Education Foundation of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and Pastor Keith Norman for making the Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Unity Breakfast a memorable event. We extend best wishes for continued success in all future endeavors.

**ADOPTED** this the 9th day of January, 2014.

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

**APPROVED** this the 9th day of January, 2014.

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Mayor of the City of Huntsville,  
Alabama