

RESOLUTION NO. 14-355

WHEREAS, the City Council and Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, are apprised that a distinguished citizen, Mrs. Geraldine Downing Williams, will be honored with the "Outstanding Alumna of the Year Award" during the Thirteenth Annual Leadership Awards Banquet sponsored by the Huntsville Progressive Alumni Chapter, Inc., of the Alabama A&M University Alumni Association, Inc., held at the Ernest L. Knight Reception Center on the beautiful campus of Alabama A&M University on June 7, 2014; and,

WHEREAS, Mrs. Geraldine D. Williams is a first generation college graduate. In 1975, she received the Bachelor of Science degree in Business Education and the Master of Science degree in Business Education in 1989 from Alabama A&M University. During her undergraduate years at Alabama A&M University, she worked as a student assistant on the University's bi-weekly program in the School of Technology, Department of Computer Science. While working as a student, she developed excellent work ethics and began her professional career at the University. She was employed as the secretary and administrative assistant in the Department of Special Education under the dynamic leadership of Dr. James H. Hicks. Other positions she held at Alabama A&M University were administrative assistant in the Department of Computer Science and technical editor in the Office of Research and Development. Also, she was employed as a business education teacher with the Madison County School System for several years; and,

WHEREAS, for the past 23 years, Mrs. Williams has been employed with the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command as a Contracting Officer/Team Lead for the Apache Sensors Division, U.S. Army Contracting Command at Redstone Arsenal; and,

WHEREAS, Mrs. Williams is an active member of numerous professional, civic and community organizations. Some of them include: life member, Alabama A&M University Alumni Association, Inc; charter member, True Light Church of God in Christ; and member, Epsilon Gamma Omega Chapter, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Also, she serves as the administrator of the Leroy Jefferson Williams, Jr., Scholarship Foundation, an organization established in memory of her late husband. The Foundation has sponsored the Annual Music Movement Race for five years and has made contributions to the Huntsville Progressive Alumni Chapter's scholarship program and the Coetaneous Lymphoma Society; and

WHEREAS, for more than 36 years, she has been actively involved in many ministries at her church and has served in several positions, such as president of the sunshine band, secretary, president of the public relations department and church announcer. In 2012, she was recognized for her support as a deaconess and church administrator by True Light Church of God in Christ. Mrs. Williams believes that

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putting God first in your life is the key to success in all areas of life. Her focus in life has been as Proverb 3:5-6 states: "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths;" and,

WHEREAS, Mrs. Williams is truly an ambassador of Alabama A&M University. She proudly states that she met the love of her life at the University, the late Leroy Jefferson Williams, Jr., and her four children, Ellery, Hope, Erin, Heather, and six of her siblings are graduates of Alabama A&M University. She and her family have left a legacy at the University, and it is their sincere desire that the legacy will continue with her eight grandchildren attending Alabama A&M University.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council and Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, gratefully acknowledge and congratulate Mrs. Geraldine D. Williams, honoree of the 2014 "Outstanding Alumna of the Year Award," and extend best wishes to her and the Huntsville Progressive Alumni Chapter, Inc., of the Alabama A&M University Alumni Association, Inc., for continued success in all future endeavors.

ADOPTED this the 22nd day of May, 2014.

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

APPROVED this the 22nd day of May, 2014.

Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama