

RESOLUTION No. 16-186

WHEREAS, the City Council and the Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, are apprised that The Honorable Dr. Richard Showers, Sr. will be honored for his active volunteerism in the local community during the "2016 Honoring Our Elders Celebration" sponsored by the Rosetta James Foundation, held at the Jackson Center on March 12, 2016; and,

WHEREAS, the Rosetta James Foundation was founded in December 2006. It is a 509 (a) (2) public charity and educational organization founded for the purposes of providing scholarships to deserving students and recognizing the contributions of the elderly in the community while promoting volunteerism and community outreach; and,

WHEREAS, the Foundation's famous "Honoring Our Elders Celebration" is named in honor of Mrs. Rosetta James, a native of Akron, Alabama, in recognition of her outstanding and extraordinary dedication and service to many communities by way of active citizenship. Mrs. James has been determined to seek and search for ways to serve the underserved, minister to the incarcerated, register citizens to vote, provide for the poor and assure hope for the hopeless throughout Huntsville-Madison County for the past 35 years, and continues to be an exemplar of servant citizenship; and,

WHEREAS, hardworking, committed and dedicated. These are a few words characteristic of a man who has given and continues to give to mankind and the community. Dr. Richard Showers, Sr., is a City Councilman representing District 1. He has served on the Huntsville City Council since 1988. During his tenure, he has made many contributions to improve the lives of the citizenry in District I; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Showers received his educational training at Alabama A&M University, earning both the Bachelor of Science degree in Agribusiness Education and a Master of Science degree in Trade and Industrial Education. He pursued additional studies in Adult and Continuing Education at Auburn University. Additionally, he was honored with an Honorary Doctor of Humanities degree; and,

WHEREAS, during his professional career in education, Dr. Showers has served as a vocational and adult education instructor and adult education coordinator. While employed with Huntsville City Schools, he was a career technical education teacher. Dr. Showers gave 36 years of dedicated service in the educational profession, helping to mold the minds of youth to become astute and productive citizens in the world of work. In 2005, he retired from the education profession and devoted his time to the issues and concerns within his district; and,

WHEREAS, his involvements with civic and community organizations are numerous. Dr. Richard Showers, Sr. has served as President/President Pro Tem of the Huntsville City Council. He has

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also served on several planning commissions and boards that were instrumental to the successful growth and development of Huntsville. Some of the board affiliations include the Planning Commission, Metropolitan Planning Committee, Historical Preservation Authority, Zoning Subcommittee, and many others. Currently, he is a member of the National Education Association, Alabama Education Association; life member of the Alabama A&M University Alumni Association, Inc.; life member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.; a member of The Huntsville Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., and a life member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP); and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Showers is a long-time active and faithful member of Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, where O. Wendell Davis is the Pastor. Showers has served as a deacon at Union Chapel for many years. Other Religious affiliations include Past President of the Alabama State Missionary Baptist Laymen's Movement; first Vice-President of the National Baptist Layman's Movement, and trustee at Selma University. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the recent recipient of the Union Chapel Christian Academy Foundation, Inc. Lifetime Achievement Award; and,

WHEREAS, he has received scores of awards, citations and plaques in recognition of his dedicated service to humanity and notable achievements. Some of the awards are: Greater Interdenominational Ministerial Fellowship Award, NAACP Award for Excellence, Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Award and NAFEO Distinguished Alabama A&M University Alumni/Presidential Citation; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Showers and his lovely wife, Bettye Ann, are the proud parents of five children and eight grandchildren.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council and Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, gratefully acknowledge and congratulate The Honorable Dr. Richard Showers, Sr. and the Rosetta James Foundation, and extend best wishes for continued success in all future endeavors.

ADOPTED this the 10th day of March, 2016.

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

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APPROVED this the 10th day of March, 2016.

Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama