

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 46
HONORING FIREFIGHTER RODNEY L. HEARD**

WHEREAS, the City of St. Louis Board of Aldermen pauses in our deliberations to note the passing of St. Louis Firefighter Rodney L. Heard on June 15, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Heard was a firefighter for the St. Louis Fire Department and died due to COVID-19 in the line of duty; and

WHEREAS, Firefighter Heard served the citizens of St. Louis faithfully for more than twenty-five years; he became a City of St. Louis employee in June 1996 in the Department of Corrections before he was appointed to the St. Louis Fire Department in March 1999; and

WHEREAS, Firefighter Heard served several neighborhoods throughout his tenure, most recently he worked in support services, supporting the entire fire department; and he was also a member of the Firefighters Institute for Racial Equality; and

WHEREAS, he is a hero to many, but most importantly to his loving wife of 23 years, Melissa, and his six children - Roderic Heard, Rodney Heard Jr., Mark Bivens, Dorion Bivens, Arriel Bivens and Marissa Pritchard; and a grandfather to 29 grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Firefighter Heard was a man of deep faith and carried his bible with him to work; and

WHEREAS, the loss of this great man is felt deeply within the St. Louis community by his colleagues, his friends, and his family; he will never be forgotten.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis, on behalf of the St. Louis community, we pause to remember the many contributions of Firefighter Rodney L. Heard to the citizens of the City of St. Louis, his children, and his family; We honor him for his dedication and heroic acts; We recognize him for his giving spirit; and we join with his many friends and family in expressing our sorrow at his passing, and we further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a memorial copy for presentation to the family, at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced this 25th day of June, 2021 by:

The Honorable Lewis E. Reed, President St. Louis City Board of Aldermen

The Honorable Joseph Vaccaro, Alderman 23rd Ward

The Honorable John Coatar, Alderman 7th Ward

The Honorable Shane Cohn, Alderman 25th Ward

The Honorable John Collins-Muhammad, Alderman 21st Ward

The Honorable Christine Ingrassia, Alderwoman 6th Ward

The Honorable Shameem Clark-Hubbard, Alderwoman 26th Ward

The Honorable Carol Howard, Alderwoman 14th Ward

Adopted 25th day of June, 2021 as attested by:

Terry Kennedy
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen