

Testimonial Resolution

FRANCES BELFON WHITE

April 19, 1931 – April 10, 2024

In Memoriam

WHEREAS

Frances Belfon White was born on [exact date needed], in Detroit, Michigan, to Frank and Darleem Belfon and was the oldest of four siblings; and

WHEREAS

Frances Belfon White was a graduate of the Detroit Public School System, completing her education at Cass Technical High School in 1948. She pursued higher education at Howard University, majoring in Zoology with a minor in Chemistry, graduating in 1952. She was also a proud member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority; and

WHEREAS

Frances Belfon White was a beacon of virtue, instilling Christian values and morals within her family. She was baptized at Old St. Matthew's Episcopal Church and was a lifelong active member of both St. Matthew's and St. Joseph's Episcopal Churches. She and her beloved husband, Damon White, were blessed with three children: Damon Jr., Ramon, and Patricia, and she was a dedicated wife and mother, cherished for her warmth and hospitality; and

WHEREAS

Frances Belfon White dedicated herself to improving community life through her medical career. In 1952, she became the second Black Medical Technologist to intern at Hutzel Hospital in Detroit. The following year, she passed the American Society of Clinical Pathology National Registry Examination for Medical Technologists. She was instrumental in obtaining state certification for the laboratory at Parkside Hospital, succeeded in her mission, and later served with distinction at Dexter Laboratories and Martin Place Hospital, advancing to the position of Assistant Laboratory Director. Her research, particularly on Sickle Cell Disease, was published in The American Journal of the Medical Sciences, among other journals, and she was a revered mentor and educator at Wayne County Community College; and

WHEREAS

Frances Belfon White was a lifelong advocate for education, earning a master's degree in occupational education from the University of Michigan in 1982. Her culminating professional role was with the Detroit Health Department Laboratory Division from which she retired; and

WHEREAS

It being the will of our Lord to call our beloved Frances Belfon White home after a remarkable life of service on April 10, 2024; THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED

That the Office of Councilman Scott Benson and the Detroit City Council honor the life and legacy of Frances Belfon White. May God bless and comfort your family during this difficult time.

Mary Surffal
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

[Signature]
COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM

Alan A. II
COUNCIL MEMBER

Mary Waters
COUNCIL MEMBER

Ayler Whitfield Calloway
COUNCIL MEMBER

[Signature]
COUNCIL MEMBER

Katisha Johnson
COUNCIL MEMBER

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COUNCIL MEMBER

[Signature]
COUNCIL MEMBER

April 20, 2024
DATE