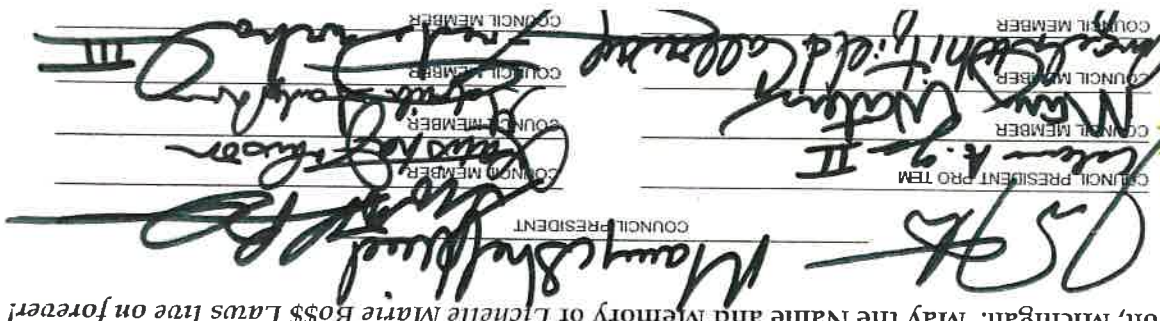




WHEREAS: Lichelle "Bo\$\$" Laus was born in Detroit, MI on September 12, 1969. She was raised by her parents who were both deacons. They were made certain that she grew up with solid Christian values. She attended a private Catholic School and was even a cheerleader. She also took jazz, tap, ballet and piano. She also attended Oakland University before following her dreams of becoming a rapper.

WHEREAS: Lichelle "Bo\$\$" Laus talents and persona were extravagant. She was known for having a hardcore gangster style of music. She was larger than life with exceptional talent, extraordinary style, and brilliant lyricism that made her one of the best rappers in a male dominated HIP-HOP community. So much so that she was noticed by DJ Quik, who immediately put her on a song with AMG. Her skills were so flawless and unmatched that it caught the attention of a famous record executive. In 1992, she was signed to Def Jam West by Russell Simmons as their first female Gangsta Rapper; and

WHEREAS: Lichelle "Bo\$\$" Laus had a very successful debut album as it debuted at number 22 on the Billboard 200 and number sixty on other hit tracks reached number three on Billboard's Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums and number one on the Billboard Hot Rap Tracks Chart. The video for *Deeper* was played daily for three weeks on VOI MTV Raps and BET's Rap City; and

WHEREAS: Lichelle Bo\$\$ Laus the success of *Born Gangsta* was a major advancement for women in the Hip Hop community. Her creativity and bravery teamed with determination and resilience allowed her to break down barriers for female rappers to also get signed to the label. This was groundbreaking because prior to her there had never been a female gangsta rapper before her. The HIP HOP industry was saturated with gangsta rappers but, none of them were women. She advocated for women by using her platform to let the industry know that there was a place for women like her; and

WHEREAS: Lichelle Bo\$\$ Laus collaborated with other artist that were at the top of their game. This solidified the level of success that reached. She worked with numerous legendary artists such as AMG, South Central Cartel, Ice T, Spice 1, Treach, Ant Banks, Powerlord Jel, Doni, G-Nut, Asu, K-Mont, Keef G, Krazyzie Bone, LaReece and others. Her music has also gone on to be included on various soundtracks for TV and movies such as Zebrahead and more recent features such as Orange is the New Black; and

WHEREAS: Lichelle Bo\$\$ Laus moved to Dallas, Texas in the mid-90's, it was there that she became a radio DJ. In 2001, she collaborated with Krazyzie Bone of Bone Thugs-N- Harmony on his album *Thug On Da Line*. In 2004, she released, "The Six Million Dollar Mixtape" which was produced by Def Jef. A "True Detroiter" She later moved back home from Texas to Detroit; and

Now Therefore Be It

RESOLUTION
In Memoriam
Michelle “Ba\$\$” Davis
Detroit Hip-Hop Pioneer & Royalty ~ All Hail “The Queen”
Sunrise: Thursday, August 14, 1969 thru Monday, March 11, 2024: Sunset
The Honorable Coleman A. Young II



DETROIT CITY COUNCIL