"Walk-on"

## Councilmembers Waters and Johnson Present This Resolution In Honor Of **Judge Deborah Thomas**

WHEREAS, Judge Deborah Thomas has served honorably on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Circuit Court in Michigan since 1994, after serving the community in private practice as well as by working for the Southeastern Michigan Transportation Authority, the Michigan Department of Labor, the UAW Legal Services Plan, and the Oakland County Legal Aid Society after earning degrees from Western Michigan University, the University of Detroit, and a law degree from Valparaiso University; and

WHEREAS, Judge Thomas has been dedicated to helping marginalized people in this community for her entire life, with her devotion to the expansion of the expungement and clean slate legislation, and to the implementation of restorative justice on the local, state and national level in the criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, Judge Thomas has earned a reputation as a fair-minded justice who has compassion for both those appearing in her courtroom as well as future legal professionals, bringing a caring, personal touch to every person who comes into her Court to ensure that they focus on redemption and self-improvement as well as actively working to mentor and encourage the warrior lawyers of today and tomorrow; finally

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Councilmember Mary Waters, At-Large, Councilmember Latisha Johnson, District 4, and the entire Detroit City Council acknowledge the Honorable Judge Deborah A. Thomas of the Third Circuit Court, Criminal Division, for her legacy of achievement as a teacher, lawyer, judge and advocate for justice.

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