

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS
COUNTY OF ESSEX

#24

RESOLUTION NO. _____
PROPOSED BY: FREEHOLDER JOHNSON
SUBJECT:

AUTHORITY FOR RESOLUTION N.J.S.A. 40:41A-38(q)
AUTHORITY FOR ACTION C.C.E 2-29 (B)

IN MEMORIAM

TOLBERT AUSTIN FURR

WHEREAS, Tolbert Austin Furr of Newark, New Jersey, is being remembered upon his passing from this life on Friday, April 3, 2020, at the age of 59; and

WHEREAS, Tolbert Austin Furr was born to the late Samuel H. and Leatrice J. Furr at Beth Israel Hospital in Newark, New Jersey, on September 27, 1960. He was the only son of Samuel and Leatrice; he was one amongst seven siblings. He grew up in the City of Newark. Affectionately known as "Pablo" to some and "Furr" to others. He attended Hawthorne Avenue Elementary School and graduated from Weequahic High School, where he skillfully played football. After graduating high school in 1978, he attended Doane College in Nebraska, where he earned a football scholarship. He loved the game and enjoyed the experience, but he missed home and returned to attend Upsala College in East Orange, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, at age 17, in 1977, Tolbert Austin Furr met the love of his life, Gwendolyn Hutson, who he affectionately called "Sunshine." On July 26, 1986, he and Gwen were married and through this union three children, Tiffany, Travis, and Tjahhlyn were born. He is also the father of Eboni, Tahjhir, and TreJohn. He was a good man who generously gave to his wife and all of his children. He had an even deeper love for Christ and attended New Hope Baptist Church (Newark) under the leadership of Pastor Joe Carter. He also served as a member for many years at Greater Mount Moriah Baptist Church under the leadership of Pastor Bennett Johnson, Jr. He frequently paid his tithes; and

WHEREAS, Tolbert Austin Furr began his career as an insurance agent with Progressive Life Insurance Company in the early 80's. He then started a three-decade career with New Jersey Transit, recently retiring in June 2019. During his time with New Jersey Transit, he was elected for two three-year terms as a union representative with ATU. His journey started as a bus-driver in the Big Tree Garage and later as a light rail operator. He also founded the Black Caucus with New Jersey Transit 819. With a desire to serve his beloved Brick City, he graduated from the police academy and became a Newark Special Police officer in 1995. Over the past 25 years, he protected and served at Newark Housing Authority (Special Crime Prevention), Newark Municipal Hall, and several churches and businesses throughout the city; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, Tolbert Austin Furr received the Newark Humanitarian award from Newark Special Police for his community service. In addition to his commitment to his career, he, along with great friends Lindsey and Wes, operated the 40-42 Social Club for their fellow officers, families, and friends. He would often be seen there for Sunday night football always representing his beloved New York Giants. The Social Club was also an extension of his need to serve, providing turkeys for families on Thanksgiving and toys on Christmas for community members. Many years, he also anonymously left 8-10 turkeys on the steps of his church so that the church could give them out to people for Thanksgiving. He affectionately loved shouting out with loving passion "Boo Da Boo" to his baby girl, Tia. He loved his people, his cigars, house music and a two-step; and

WHEREAS, Tolbert Austin Furr leaves to cherish his memories: a loving wife, Gwendolyn Furr; children, Tiffany (Jimmy) Barreau, Travis Furr, Tjahhlyn Furr, Eboni Furr, Tahjhir Furr, and TreJohn Furr; siblings, Deadra (Reginald) Phillips, Donna (Arthur) Hall, Keith Jackson, Dionne Winstead, Barbara (Michael) Furr-Washington, and Samuel Furr, III; grandchildren, Jaden Furr and Isaiah Barreau; in-laws, Willie (Cynthia) Hutson, Margie Hutson; sister-in-law, Theresa Huston and family; uncles, Carl Watkins and Carl Gaynor; and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders hereby celebrates the life and mourns the passing of Tolbert Austin Furr and offers their heartfelt condolences to his family; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Tolbert Austin Furr.

Approved as to form and legality _____

Michael J. P... ..
Freeholder Counsel

RECORD OF VOTE (X=Vote N.V.=Abstention ABS=Absent)

Moved by Freeholder _____
Second by Freeholder _____

Freeholder	Yes	No	N.V.	ABS	Freeholder	Yes	No.	N.V.	ABS
COOPER					POMARES				
GRAHAM					RICHARDSON, V.P.	✓			
JOHNSON					SEBOLD				
LUCIANO									
MERCADO					GILL, PRES.				

It is hereby certified that the foregoing Resolution was () adopted () defeated () tabled by roll call vote at a _____ meeting of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Essex, New Jersey held on _____

Is Publication Required () Yes () No

Date Published _____

Brendan W. Gill, President