

Trayon White

Councilmember Trayon White, Sr.

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To recognize posthumously Mrs. Beverly Bernadette “Bae” Johnson-Odoms, for her lifelong commitment to being a public servant, her entrepreneurial endeavors, and helping and serving others in her community.

1 WHEREAS; Mrs. Johnson-Odoms was born to John E. and Viola T. Johnson on
2 September 6, 1947.

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4 WHEREAS; Mrs. Johnson-Odoms attended Saint Vincent De Paul Catholic, Anthony
5 Bowen Elementary, Thomas Jefferson Junior High, and Chamberlain Vocational High School in
6 Washington, DC.

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8 WHEREAS; Mrs. Johnson-Odoms was a student at Federal City College and Antioch
9 School of Law.

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11 WHEREAS; Mrs. Johnson-Odoms began her career at Woodward and Lothrop
12 Department Store, followed by DC General Hospital, and returning to retail as a store manager
13 for Peoples and the Southland Corporation.

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15 WHEREAS; In 1989, Mrs. Johnson-Odoms opened Bae’s Place, a retail store that
16 championed Black artists. She sold hats, leather goods, clothing, and one-of-a-kind wood-crafted
17 mirrors and art pieces. She was well-known for her gift of gab, magnetic personality, and innate
18 understanding of her client’s desires. Bae’s Place was a community hub for over twenty years.

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20 WHEREAS; Mrs. Johnson-Odoms volunteered her services annually for the Black
21 Caucus.

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23 WHEREAS; Mrs. Johnson-Odoms joined the Department of Commerce, Bureau of the
24 Census, first as a door-to-door advocate and working her way up to the Local Census Office
25 Manager of DC West Local Census Office leading up to the 2000 Census.

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27 WHEREAS; Mrs. Johnson-Odoms worked as the Assistant Director of Family Education
28 for Hyde Leadership Public Charter School.

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30 WHEREAS; When Hyde Leadership Public Charter School did not renew its DC chapter,
31 Mrs. Johnson-Odoms went to work for the American Psychiatric Association.
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33 WHEREAS; Mrs. Johnson-Odoms returned to the education field to work as a Parent
34 Advocate at Frank W. Ballou Senior High School.

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36 WHEREAS; At age 58, Mrs. Johnson-Odoms returned to complete her undergraduate
37 education at Southeastern University and graduated summa cum laude with a degree in Business
38 Management in 2005.

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40 WHEREAS; In 2007, Mrs. Johnson-Odoms received her Master's Degree, summa cum
41 laude, in Leadership and Management from Webster University at the age of 60. This
42 tremendous accomplishment inspired folks young and old to complete and further their
43 education.

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45 WHEREAS; Mrs. Johnson-Odoms worked as the Resident Service Coordinator for the
46 Operation Pathways at Roundtree Residence, where she planned events and outings for the
47 seniors there, successfully advocated to enhance their living spaces, and, during the COVID-19
48 pandemic, ensured delivery to all residents of food, news updates, and vaccinations and booster
49 shots.

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51 WHEREAS; Mrs. Johnson-Odoms passed away peacefully on December 9, 2021. She is
52 remembered for her warm heart, the love she poured into her community, and her fearless
53 determination to succeed. She leaves behind cherished family members, friends, and neighbors,
54 as well as an outstanding lifelong legacy of resilience, service, and commitment to the District of
55 Columbia and its residents.

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57 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
58 resolution may be cited as the "Beverly Johnson-Odoms Posthumous Recognition Ceremonial
59 Resolution of 2022".

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61 Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes, honors, and celebrates the
62 accomplishments of Mrs. Beverly Johnson-Odoms for her impact on District residents of all
63 ages, service to others in their time of most need, and distinguished contributions to the
64 community.

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66 Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in
67 the District of Columbia Register.