

12.12.23 1st Reading  
12.12.23 2nd Reading  
12.12.23 3rd Reading  
12.12.23 Under Suspension  
12.12.23 Adopted

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-52

INTRODUCED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

**A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING REVEREND CLAUDIE WILLIAMS, JR.**

**Whereas**, Reverend Claudie Williams, Jr. and First Lady Sandra Williams have been residents of Oakwood Village since May 12, 1980. Their separate journeys to the Village of Oakwood began years before and it began in separate places.

**Whereas**, Sandra grew up in Manning, SC, the eleventh child of Henry and Martha Ridgill. Claudie grew up in Cleveland, OH, the first child of Claudie Sr. and Alma Williams. Sandra lived in small town where tobacco farming was the predominant industry. Claudie lived in a major city where steel and auto manufacturing were the predominant industries.

**Whereas**, both graduated from their respective high schools. Sandra matriculated from Buchtel High School in Akron, Ohio. Claudie matriculated from Glenville High School in Cleveland, Ohio. Although their starts were divergent, their paths began to converge.

**Whereas**, Sandra entered training to become a nurse at the Kate Bitting Reynolds School of Nursing in Winston-Salem, NC. While Claudie entered the US Navy and trained to become a corpsman, subsequently being stationed at Camp LeJeune in Jacksonville, North Carolina. He served in the United States Navy as a Hospital Corpsman and was honorably discharged in 1970.

**Whereas**, after finishing their training, they both worked at the Cleveland Clinic Hospital System. While there, Claudie received an Associate Degree in Business Administration from Cuyahoga Community College in 1975. At the Cleveland Clinic, Claudie held a position in the Organ Preservation Laboratory involved in research and the Kidney Transplantation Program of Northeast Ohio and Sandra held a position as a Registered Nurse for 39 years before she retired. It was there, at the clinic, that they met for coffee and moved closer to being one.

**Whereas**, on September 9, 1977, Claudie and Sandra became united in holy matrimony at the home of Sandra's sister and brother-in-law, Mr., and Mrs. Leonard Mitchel in Warrensville Heights, OH.

**Whereas**, Reverend Claudie Williams Jr. became the Pastor of the Rome Missionary Baptist Church in the Village of Oakwood, Ohio in May of 1984. He retired as Pastor in May 2023 after 39 years of service. He accepted Christ at an early age and was baptized at the Historical Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church under the pastorate of the late Rev. C. T. Nelson.

**Whereas**, while an active member in various axillaries of the Beulah Baptist Church of Collinwood, he received his Call to the Ministry under the pastorate of the late Reverend Emery Woods 1982. He attended Moody Bible Inc. at Cleveland State University and was awarded a Master of Arts Degree in Theology from Ashland Theological Seminary in 1997.

**Whereas**, he is a part of several ministerial and community groups. He is not only an active member, but also a past president of The Baptist Minister's Conference of Cleveland & Vicinity. He presently holds the office of President of The Baptist Pastor's Council of Cleveland, Ohio (2023) and a Coordinator for the Foreign Missions Board in Cleveland, Ohio of the National Baptist Convention USA. He is a member of the United Pastor's in Missions of Greater Cleveland, a Life Member of The Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) Cleveland Chapter, a member of the NAACP, and a member of the Southeast Ministerial Prayer Group.

**Whereas**, together, Reverend Claudie Williams, Jr. and First Lady Sandra Williams raised three children, Christopher Chad, Claudette Nicole, and Charles Emery. Sadly, Christopher was called home to be with the Lord, December 17, 2004. From their children, they gained two daughters-in-law, Krystal, and Marilyn, and one son-in-law, Herbert (Jude) McDonald, and a host of grandchildren: Christian Jaquir Xavier, Raven Simone, Riane Mackenzie, Amari Shaheim, Ari Nycole, Charles (CJ) Emery, Jr., Carter Lee, and Madilynn (Madi) RoShall.

**NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT**, by the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga, and State of Ohio, that:

**SECTION 1.** The Village Council and Mayor wishes Reverend Claudie Williams, Jr., and First Lady Sandra Williams the best and continued health and happiness for many years to come.

**SECTION 2.** This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED: 12.12.23

Tanya Joseph  
Tanya Joseph, Clerk of Council

Johnnie A. Warren  
Johnnie A. Warren, President of Council

Presented to the  
Mayor 12.13.23

Approved: 12.13.23

Gary V. Gottschalk  
Mayor, Gary V. Gottschalk

I, Tanya Joseph, Clerk of Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga, and State of Ohio, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 2023-52 was duly and regularly passed by this Council at the meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023.

Tanya Joseph  
Tanya Joseph, Clerk of Council

#### POSTING CERTIFICATE

I, Tanya Joseph, Clerk of Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga, and State of Ohio, do hereby certify that Resolution No. 2023-52 was duly posted on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023, and will remain posted as provided on the Charter and Ordinances of the Village.

Tanya Joseph  
Tanya Joseph, Clerk of Council

DATED: 12.13.23



# RESOLUTION

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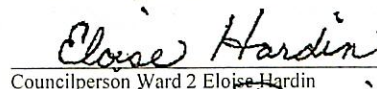
**NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT,** by the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga, and State of Ohio, that:

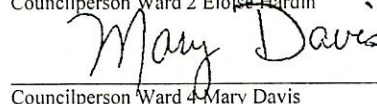
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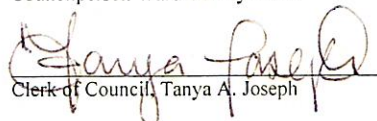
**SECTION 2.** This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

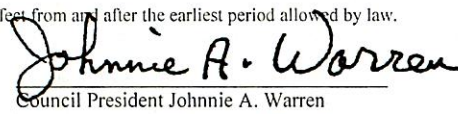
  
Mayor Gary P. Gotschalk

  
Council-at-Large Elaine Y. Gaither

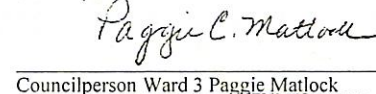
  
Councilperson Ward 2 Eloise Hardin

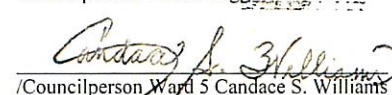
  
Councilperson Ward 4 Mary Davis

  
Clerk of Council Tanya A. Joseph

  
Council President Johnnie A. Warren

  
Councilperson Ward 1 Chris C. Callender

  
Councilperson Ward 3 Paggie Matlock

  
Councilperson Ward 5 Candace S. Williams