

RESOLUTION NO. 12934-16

RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION

WHEREAS, Julius Green, having only completed a 10th grade education, went on to have a successful military and civilian career, earn two college degrees, and make history as the U.S. Army's first African-American Master Diver; and

WHEREAS, Julius Green joined the U.S. Army in 1951 and after basic training was stationed in Germany for three years. Following his time in Germany, he was stationed at Fort Jackson, South Carolina where he applied and was accepted to train to become a U.S. Army Diver, even though at the time he did not know how to swim; and

WHEREAS, in 1956, upon completing his training at the U.S. Army Diving School in Fort Eustis, Virginia, Julius Green became only the second African American diver in the U.S. military and the first in the U.S. Army; and

WHEREAS, after 12 years as an Sergeant First Class (E-7), Julius Green applied and was accepted to the U.S. Army Marine Engineering Warrant Officer Basic Course. Upon his graduation, Julius Green became the Army's first African American diving officer; and

WHEREAS, Julius Green served as an instructor in the Army Diving Training Program at Fort Eustis until his retirement as a Chief Warrant Officer 3 in 1973. His U.S. Army service also included two tours in Vietnam from 1967-1968 and 1970-1971; and

WHEREAS, following his retirement after 22 years of service in the U.S. Army, Julius Green was employed by the College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia for 23 years, retiring as Director of Operations for the College. During that time, he earned an Associates Degree and Bachelors Degree from Saint Leo University; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his military service and civilian employment, Julius Green has been active in his community. He is a Deacon at Wesley Grove United Church of Christ in Newport News, Virginia, where he has served as Chairman of the Deacon Board. He is a life member of the Sigma Delta Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and has been a Freemason since 1956, and is a Past Master of Pioneer Lodge No. 315, Free & Accepted Masons, Prince Hall Affiliation and has held other local, state and national offices. He has also served as President of the U.S. Army Divers Association; and

WHEREAS, Julius Green and his wife, Rosalyn, have two children, two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Newport News, Virginia:

1. That it hereby recognizes the history making service of Julius Green who was the first African-American U.S. Army diver and the first African-American U.S. Army diving officer.
2. That it expresses its sincere appreciation to Julius Green for his dedicated service to the City of Newport News and to the United States of America.
2. That a copy of this resolution be spread upon the records of this body and that a copy be delivered to Julius Green.
3. That this resolution take effect on and after the date of its adoption, June 28, 2016.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS ON JUNE 28, 2016

Mabel Washington Jenkins, MMC
City Clerk

McKinley L. Price, DDS
Mayor

A true copy, teste:

City Clerk