

WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, the oldest Greek-letter organization established for and by African American women was founded January 15, 1908 on the campus of Howard University in Washington, D.C., to enhance the “social and intellectual aspects of campus life”; and

WHEREAS, the Sorority’s growth propelled throughout the United States into the Caribbean, Bahamas, several European countries and Africa; and

WHEREAS, the current membership of **Alpha Kappa Alpha** exceeds 180,000 and its organizational structure, programmatic thrust, effective leadership and committed members ensure its place among the leading women’s organizations of America; and

WHEREAS, the southern states of Alabama, Tennessee and Mississippi comprise the South Eastern Region where Dr. Juanita Sims Doty, Director serves as the linkage between the 104 graduate and undergraduate chapters; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of the Centennial International President, Dr. Barbara A. McKinzie, **Alpha Kappa Alpha**, through its foundation has contributed millions of dollars to non-profit organizations whose programs promote equal justice, education, and an improved quality of life for all humankind; and

WHEREAS, the Memphis, Tennessee area is home to six chapters: Beta Epsilon Omega and Phi Lambda Omega graduate chapters and undergraduate chapters at LeMoyne-Owen College (Beta Tau), University of Memphis (Epsilon Epsilon), Christian Brothers University (Mu Epsilon) and Rhodes College (Omicron Chi); and

WHEREAS, the Memphis chapters provide an abundance of services including support of LeMoyne-Owen College, college scholarships for deserving high school students, reading and tutorial programs at Memphis inner-city schools including Camp Steady for homeless students, financial responsibility and financial literacy programs for Memphis area middle and high school students, a mentoring program for young ladies in area high schools, community health fairs, and volunteers for various charitable organizations and projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That **Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated**, in preparation for its Centennial Celebration in July, 2008 in Washington, D.C. be congratulated and commended for its spirit of volunteerism and philanthropic endeavors, and for the excellent programs that were developed, implemented and conducted through the years that have made a difference in the lives of numerous children and youth in an effort to improve life for all humankind.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That the Memphis City Council hereby lauds and honors the members of **Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority** as they celebrate 100 Years of Distinguished Service to Memphis and the nation and extends best wishes for a successful celebration that will strengthen their commitment and dedication, bolster their membership and create lasting memories, all of which continues to guide the Sorority to new heights.

Adopted: October 16, 2007