



## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

### RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF AFRICAN AMERICAN MILITARY VETERANS AND RECOGNIZE AFRICAN AMERICAN MILITARY HERITAGE DAY

**WHEREAS,** Every year in our Boston community, the Organization of Afro-American Veterans and other military veterans organizations gather at General Edward O. Gourdin Veterans Memorial Park to perpetuate the history and contributions of African American Military Veterans; *and*

**WHEREAS,** They honor African-American military and civil service at all levels by telling their stories through command information channels; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Boston will continue to support our United States African American military and veterans to show that our city strongly embraces diversity as a way to create a system that maximizes individual talents, and increases morale - regardless of race, color, or gender; *and*

**WHEREAS,** In 2020, Black Soldiers comprised approximately 21% of the active-duty Army, 15% of the Army National Guard, and 21% of the Army Reserve. Black Americans serve in the Army at a higher rate than their representation in the U.S. population; *and*

**WHEREAS,** 43% of the 1.3 million men and women on active duty in the United States military are people of color. Of the 41 most senior commanders in the military, only two are black; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The purpose of annually celebrating African Military Heritage Day in Boston is to acknowledge the service and contributions of African American Veterans of all wars. The history will not be forgotten, and I'm pleased to say that the Veterans Memorial Park in Roxbury plays a part in this commemoration; **NOW,  
THEREFORE BE IT**

**RESOLVED:** That the Boston City Council passes a resolution to acknowledge African American Military Heritage Day on Saturday, May 21<sup>nd</sup>, 2022.