

# RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF IRVINGTON, NJ

No. **MC 17-0426-25**

Date of Adoption **APR. 26, 2017**

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY ON THE BASIS OF FACTS SET FORTH BY

*[Signature]*  
Legislative Research Officer

PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBER **COX**

SECONDED BY **INMAN**

## RESOLUTION OF SORROW ~ PASTOR EMERITUS JOHN B. ALSTON

WHEREAS, the Irvington Municipal Council wishes to express their deep sorrow on the passing of Pastor Emeritus John B. Alston on April 12, 2017, who leaves a legacy that will be remembered by many; and

WHEREAS, on April 24, 1928 in the small town of Ridgeway, North Carolina, God blessed John Mike and Ella Alston with the birth of their son John B. Alston; and

WHEREAS, accepting Jesus Christ as his personal Savior, John Alston united with the Oak Grove Christian Church in 1943, under the Pastoral Leadership of the Rev. Jim Mike Hargrove. Blessed by God with a remarkable voice, Elder Alston used his musical gift to uplift God's name in song. In 1943, Elder Alston along with his brother Henry, and cousins Raymond and June Jives, formed the St. Andrews Jubilee Singers. This gospel group became a well-known local favorite. They later became the Gospel Brothers with the addition of Roy Williams; and

WHEREAS, shortly thereafter in 1946, John Alston joined the United States Army. His favorite tour of duty in the military was his assignment to Japan. Upon being honorably discharged from the military, John Alston returned to Henderson, N.C. and continued to sing with the Gospel Brothers. In 1952, he married Geraldine Boyd and to this union he was blessed with his first son Gerald Alston. He later returned to school to complete his education and to study the carpentry trade; and

WHEREAS, Elder Alston received his calling to the ministry on April 24, 1956. Being obedient to God's calling, Elder Alston made a vow to God, promising him that he would preach his unadulterated Gospel. On the third Sunday in May 1957, under the Pastoral leadership of the Rev. Jim Mike Hargrove, Pastor Alston preached his initial sermon "The Prodigal Son". In the same year of 1957, Pastor Alston relocated to New Jersey and united with the St. John Baptist Church in New York City. He later transferred his membership to the Salem Baptist church, under the leadership of the Rev. Johnson; and

WHEREAS, in 1962, he married Geneva D. London, and was blessed with five sons, David, Edward, Michael, Vincent, and the late Danny Ray; and

WHEREAS, in July of 1980, Elder Alston began worshipping with the Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist Church. After the resignation of Pastor Thomas, the Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist Church members inquired upon Elder Alston to bring forth The Word of God. In October 1982, at the church's monthly conference meeting, Elder Alston was elected to an Internship as Pastor of the Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Alston served as Pastor of Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist faithfully for 37 years. Under his Pastoral ship two Elders and one Deacon have been ordained. Many people have been baptized and have accepted Christ through his ministry; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the Pastor's spiritual accomplishments, many organizations have been added to the church. In 1996, God blessed the church through Elder Hagins, an associated Elder of the church to form the Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist Church Help Center. This organization has been a blessing to the church and the community by providing counseling, referrals, financial support, food pantry, homeless prevention center, computer lab and afterschool tutoring; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of Irvington that the Township of Irvington hereby mourns the loss of Pastor Emeritus John B. Alston and offers its sincerest condolences to his family, friends and congregation during this period of bereavement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this governing body as a lasting tribute to Pastor Emeritus John B. Alston.

### RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTE

X = Indicates Vote    N.V. = No Vote    A.B. = Absent

COUNCIL MEMBER	YES	NO	N.V.	A.B.	COUNCIL MEMBER	YES	NO	N.V.	A.B.
BURGESS, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT	X				INMAN	X			
COX	X				JONES, 2ND VICEPRESIDENT	X			
FREDERIC	X				LYONS, PRESIDENT	X			
DR. HUDLEY				X					

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL *[Signature]* MUNICIPAL CLERK *[Signature]* DATE **APR. 26, 2017**

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a Resolution duly adopted by the Municipal Council. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and the Corporate Seal of the Township of Irvington.

MUNICIPAL CLERK *[Signature]* DATE **APR 26 2017**

ADMINISTRATOR ☐ ASSESSOR ☐ BLDG ☐ CFO ☐ COLLECTOR ☐ COURT ☐ EDG ☐ ENGINEER ☐ FIRE ☐ CF ☐ HEALTH ☐ HOUSING ☐ INIC ☐ JUDGE ☐ LEGAL ☐ LIBR ☐ LICEN ☐ MAYOR ☐ NPP ☐ OCDP ☐ PARKS ☐ PAYROLL ☐ PUBLIC SAFETY ☐ DIR ☐ PUBLIC WORKS ☐ PURCHASING ☐ SEC ☐ PB/ZBA ☐ TRAFFIC ☐ ZONING ☐ OFF ☐ DLGS ☐ GNCD ☐ OTHER(S): \_\_\_\_\_