

**CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING THE 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE
WINSTON-SALEM SIT-IN MOVEMENT**

WHEREAS, on February 8, 1960, Carl Wesley Matthews began a sit-in at Kress store located at Fourth and Liberty Streets in downtown Winston-Salem; and

WHEREAS, on February 23, 1960, eleven African-American Students from Winston-Salem Teacher's College (including Jefferson D. Diggs, III, and Victor Johnson, Jr.) and ten white students from Wake Forest University (including Margaret Anne Dutton, Bill Stevens and George Williamson) joined the protest and entered the Woolworth's on Fourth and Liberty Streets in Winston-Salem and proceeded to the lunch counter; and

WHEREAS, the group entered the store for the purpose of integrating lunch counters in Winston-Salem and when asked by the store manager to leave, they peacefully refused; and

WHEREAS, all twenty-one were arrested, fingerprinted and jailed. The black students and white students were tried in separate court rooms; and

WHEREAS, there was a great controversy over the arrests, however, the students were found guilty of trespassing, but were given suspensions so that no time would be served. All twenty-one students received a "Prayer for Judgment" and the protests continued for 107 days; and

WHEREAS, as a result of these demonstrations and subsequent negotiations, an agreement was reached between City officials and store managers, and on May 25, 1960, the City of Winston-Salem was the first community in North Carolina to complete the desegregation of lunch counters. February 2010 marks the 50th anniversary of the Winston-Salem sit-in movement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Winston-Salem do hereby recognize and applaud these courageous acts. We urge all citizens to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities marking the 50th anniversary of the sit-in movement.