

**BUFFALO FISCAL STABILITY AUTHORITY
RESOLUTION NO. 18-04
HONORING BFSA DIRECTOR FRANK B. MESIAH**

WHEREAS, on July 3, 2003, the New York State Governor signed into law Chapter 122 of the Laws of 2003, known as the Buffalo Fiscal Stability Authority Act, which created the Buffalo Fiscal Stability Authority (“BFSA”) to assist in the restoration of fiscal stability in the City of Buffalo (the City”) and within its covered organizations; and

WHEREAS, New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli nominated Frank B. Mesiah as his appointee to the BFSA Board of Directors in March 2009, noting his confidence in Mr. Mesiah’s abilities due to his work experience and leadership roles in the Buffalo community; and

WHEREAS, Governor David A. Paterson subsequently confirmed the nomination, resulting in the appointment of Mr. Mesiah to the BFSA; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mesiah’s contributions to the BFSA were numerous, and he advocated strongly on behalf of the poor and disenfranchised, often challenging officials in education and housing to increase the visibility of issues effecting the minority community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mesiah’s passion for issues such as the education and preparation of youth for future employment, transportation challenges from the inner city to job locations, and increasing minority and female participation in government contracts was clearly demonstrated through his actions while serving the Buffalo Fiscal Stability Authority; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mesiah served as a police officer of the City of Buffalo, obtained his undergraduate and graduate degrees from Buffalo State Teachers College and later studied for a doctorate in educational administration, and served in various roles in education including President of the Black Educators Association, and later worked for the State Department of Labor handling discrimination cases for twenty years, from which he retired; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mesiah’s work protesting the location of a Buffalo school due to its perpetuation of racial separation laid the groundwork for his biggest battle, the lawsuit that led to Judge John T. Curtin’s ruling to integrate the Buffalo schools; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mesiah was president of the Buffalo Branch of the NAACP, a post he held for twenty years before stepping down in 2016; and

WHEREAS, Director Mesiah’s contributions to the City of Buffalo were extraordinary and numerous, and furthermore included service on various boards including the Erie County Industrial Development Agency, Erie County Medical Center, Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Western New York, the Greater Buffalo Development Foundation and the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society and various leadership positions with the Western New York Public Broadcasting Corporation, the Afro American Historical Association of the Niagara Frontier, among many others; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mesiah's background of many years in public service and numerous leadership roles resulted in his invaluable membership of the BFSA; and

WHEREAS, Director Mesiah served the BFSA for over nine years, working tirelessly towards the achievement of fiscal stability by the City of Buffalo, having been appointed to the BFSA during a control period and serving during the transition into an advisory period; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mesiah served the BFSA dutifully through his passing on April 27, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Director Mesiah's contributions to the community will endure and will have a positive effect on future generations.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Buffalo Fiscal Stability Authority does hereby honor and appreciate Frank B. Mesiah for his outstanding contributions to the Buffalo Fiscal Stability Authority, and to the betterment of the City of Buffalo, its citizens and the Western New York Community.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Approved May 16, 2018

/s/ George K. Arthur

George K. Arthur,
Secretary