

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, May 17, 2024, marks the 65th Anniversary of the Northern Virginia Alumnae Chapter (NoVAC) of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, an organization of college educated women committed to public service, incepted by 22 founders at Howard University in 1913; and

WHEREAS, NoVAC became the 251st chapter chartered on May 17, 1959, by 13 concerned members who felt a need in the Alexandria community, and it included Aeolus Jones Brooks, Izzetta Callahan, Signora Collins, Nellie Stewart Grayson, Eula Mallette Miller, Eddie Lee Jones Mims, Laura McPhail, Dorothy Hamm Moore, Ruth Owens, Nellie Brooks Quander, Oline Madison Richardson, Mary Davidson Robinson, and Doris Thompson Woods; and

WHEREAS, the Alexandria Alumnae Chapter voted in 1977 to change its name to the Northern Virginia Alumnae Chapter to serve as a beacon and trailblazer for the cities of Alexandria, Falls Church, Fairfax, and the County of Arlington; Melanie J. Carter currently serves as the Chapter's 28th President; and

WHEREAS, NoVAC implements Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated's National Five Point Programmatic Thrust, focusing on economic development, educational development, international awareness and involvement, physical and mental health, and political awareness and involvement; and

WHEREAS, NoVAC's history includes decades of building alliances and forging partnerships with Alexandria Public Schools, and Alexandria-based non-profits, businesses, and churches to provide quality service to the community in the form of social and cultural activities, educational activities, career enlightenment, health enlightenment and scholarship opportunities; and

WHEREAS, since the inception of the Northern Virginia Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated in 1959, the Chapter has awarded nearly a half million dollars in scholarships to high school graduates entering college; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Virginia Alumnae Chapter (NoVAC) established the Northern Virginia Delta Education and Community Service Foundation (NVDECS) in 1992, which has played a significant role in providing educational, scientific, civic, literary and service programs; and

WHEREAS, NoVAC has engaged Alexandria residents in social action, through neighborhood voter registration drives, participation in Wear Orange Gun Violence Prevention, Adopt-A-Block on Wythe Street, League of Women Voters of Alexandria and Arlington, Alexandria Boys and Girls Club, Carpenter's Shelter, Annie B. Rose House, Ladrey Senior Housing, American Red Cross, St. Jude's Research Hospital, Reading Is Fundamental (RIF), Alexandria Recreation Department, National Council of Negro Women (NCNW), and United Nations World AIDS Day; and

WHEREAS, NoVAC will celebrate 65 years of community service and impact at its 10th Annual Trailblazer Awards and Scholarship Celebration on May 5, 2024, in a themed event entitled "Rockin' in Red Experience" a Vision of Motown, also noting that Motown, too, was founded in 1959.

NOW, THEREFORE, I JUSTIN M. WILSON, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Va., and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby recognize May 17, 2024, as:

"THE 65th CHAPTER ANNIVERSARY of NORTHERN VIRGINIA ALUMNAE CHAPTER of DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INCORPORATED"

in the City of Alexandria and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens, and I urge all citizens, local departments, and organizations to take part in observances designed to increase awareness and understanding of the services of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated as a global organization that immensely impacts Alexandria residents and local jurisdictions.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 14th day of May 2024.

MAYOR JUSTIN M. WILSON
On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST:

Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk

