

Proclamation

WHEREAS,

Mrs. Velma Mae Turner Rainey was born on May 15, 1919 and was raised in Carrollton, Georgia by her brother, Levi Wilson, and his wife; she acquired a job at the age of 10 years old working as an assistant for the Lee's grandmother, Ms. Stanley Dodson, on a farm in the Red Oak community off of Roosevelt Highway, which became her new home; and



FULTON COUNTY

WHEREAS,

Velma was offered the opportunity to work at a rate of 25 cents to make money at the Lee's family farm, and 10 cents for the extra hours; she worked with the Lee family for a few years, then moved on to a better opportunity making \$4.00 per week when she began working for a black family, where she contributed to the household finances as a way to pay for lodging; and



FULTON COUNTY

WHEREAS,

Velma was married to the late Mr. Lovett "Mutt" Rainey, with whom she partnered in the *Lovett Rainey, Sr. Landscaping Business*; their marriage was blessed with 7 girls and 6 boys; as a wedding gift from the Longino family, the young couple were gifted their home at 200 White City Road and some land, and they became sharecroppers and property managers for General George Longino; and



FULTON COUNTY

WHEREAS,

Velma and her husband served as active community leaders, church members, and supporters of education, with each of their 13 children completing high school, and some completing college; Velma was also a very active PTA parent and library supporter and volunteer; and



FULTON COUNTY

WHEREAS,

Velma began her career in housekeeping around the age of seven, and was required to work in exchange for housing, food, and clothing; she later farmed alongside her husband, worked as a telephone receptionist for their landscaping business, and handled paperwork, collected rent, and managed operations for her husband's rental properties; and



FULTON COUNTY

WHEREAS,

Velma is the matriarch of a family that has children and grandchildren receiving collegiate academic and athletic scholarships, some culminating into Bachelors, Masters, and Doctoral degrees, successful business owners including landscapers, dentists, artists, educators, realtors, musicians, lawyers, pastors, and other professions;



FULTON COUNTY



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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Commissioners of Fulton County acknowledges and celebrates Mrs. Rainey's 105th birthday and does hereby proclaim Wednesday, May 15, 2024 as **"VELMA MAE TURNER RAINEY APPRECIATION DAY"** in Fulton County, Georgia.

Fulton County Board of Commissioners


Chair to the Commission


Commissioner

Attest:


Clerk to the Commission

