

# Proclamation



**WHEREAS,**

Calvin Crawford Johnson, Jr. was a native of Cincinnati, Ohio and relocated to Atlanta with his family when he was 13 years old; he is a 1975 graduate of Southwest High School and later earned his Bachelor's degree in Mass Communications from Clark Atlanta University; and



**WHEREAS,**

Calvin worked at MARTA in Atlanta for over 23 years, holding many different roles including Station Manager and Acting Superintendent of Station Services and Rail Transportation; and



**WHEREAS,**

Calvin was the first person in Georgia to be exonerated by DNA evidence in 1999 (with the help of the Innocence Project) after spending 16 years in prison for a crime he did not commit; in the years after his release, Calvin partnered closely with the Innocence Project and the Georgia Innocence Project and fought passionately alongside them to help and correct wrongful convictions; and



**WHEREAS,**

Calvin published a memoir titled *Exit to Freedom* and served on the inaugural board of directors for the Innocence Project in New York, and served as Chair of the board of directors for the Georgia Innocence Project; he also testified before legislative committees and met with and won over many government leaders in advocating for reform of the criminal legal system; and



**WHEREAS,**

Calvin leaves to cherish his memory his beloved daughter, Brianna Jo Ann Johnson, his partner, Ms. Denise Brown, two sisters, Judith and Tara, and a host of family friends;



**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** That the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes Calvin Crawford Johnson, Jr. for a life of advocacy and justice for those wrongfully convicted, and does hereby proclaim Thursday, January 26, 2023 as "**CALVIN CRAWFORD JOHNSON, JR. REMEMBRANCE DAY**" in Fulton County, Georgia.

**Fulton County Board of Commissioners**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Commissioner**

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk to the Commission

F U L T O N C O U N T Y