

# Proclamation



*WHEREAS,* Thomas W. Dortch, Jr. was born April 12, 1950 in Toccoa, Georgia to Lizzie and Thomas W. Dortch, Sr. and grew into a leader, mentor, and one of the most influential Atlantans; and

*WHEREAS,* Thomas W. Dortch, Jr. earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology and Pre-Professional Social Work from Fort Valley State University in 1972, and a Masters of Art degree in Criminal Justice Administration from Clark-Atlanta University in 1986, was a Ford Fellow in the Urban Administration Program at Georgia State University, and received Honorary Doctorate degrees from Fayetteville State University, Jarvis Christian College, Fort Valley State University, University of Maryland Eastern Shores, and Livingstone College; and

*WHEREAS,* Thomas W. Dortch, Jr. began his career in 1972 as a proposal writer, seeking to aid disenfranchised people through proposing projects for the State of Georgia, and within two years had earned the title of Associate Director of the Georgia Democratic Party; and

*WHEREAS,* Thomas W. Dortch, Jr. began working with Senator Sam Nunn in 1978, and in 1990 became Senator Nunn’s State Director, becoming the first African American to serve as Chief Administrator for a U.S. Senator, supervising five field offices and one state office; and

*WHEREAS,* Thomas W. Dortch, Jr. was best known for his pioneering work with the 100 Black Men of America, Inc., where he served six terms as Chairman of the National Board of Directors, and he was the Founder and Chairman of the National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame, Inc.; and

*WHEREAS,* Thomas’ greatest accomplishment was his family; he leaves to cherish his memory his beloved wife, Carole Dortch, his children, grandchildren, two sisters, in-laws, and a host of extended family and friends;

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,*** That the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes Thomas W. Dortch, Jr. for a life of integrity, impact, and service to his community and family, and does hereby proclaim Saturday, February 25, 2023 as “**THOMAS W. DORTCH, JR. REMEMBRANCE DAY**” in Fulton County, Georgia.

*Fulton County Board of Commissioners*

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Commissioner

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Commissioner

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Commissioner

Attest:

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Clerk to the Commission