

## RESOLUTION

### **A RESOLUTION BY THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF DEKALB COUNTY, GEORGIA, TO ERECT A PERMANENT MONUMENT MEMORIALIZING DEKALB VICTIMS OF RACIAL TERRORISM**

**WHEREAS**, it is documented that thousands of African Americans were victims of racial violence in the United States between the Civil War and World War II, including death by mob violence without due process of law, otherwise known as lynching;

**WHEREAS**, lynching was racial violence intended to facilitate an unjust social order;

**WHEREAS**, lynching specifically targeted African-Americans and significantly marginalized them from the country's political, economic, and social systems; and precipitated a massive migration of black people from the Deep South;

**WHEREAS**, lynching and other forms of racial terrorism inflicted deep traumatic and psychological wounds on survivors, witnesses, family members, and the entire African-American community;

**WHEREAS**, lynchings and other extrajudicial mob violence occurred most frequently in southern states including Georgia;

**WHEREAS**, the number of unreported lynchings is unknown and may never be discovered or quantified, there is documented evidence that several lynchings took place in DeKalb County;

**WHEREAS**, it is believed that many victims of racial terrorism throughout the state of Georgia and DeKalb County continue to experience the lasting effects of racial terrorism;

**WHEREAS**, the DeKalb County Governing Authority recognizes the importance of publicly confronting the truth about its history;

**WHEREAS**, public commemoration plays a significant role in prompting community-wide recovery and reconciliation;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the DeKalb County Governing Authority, that a permanent marker be erected on the grounds of the historic DeKalb County Courthouse commemorating and memorializing the lives of those DeKalb residents impacted by racial terrorism, especially those victims of lynching and other extrajudicial mob violence and acknowledging the impact this violence and other forms of domestic and racial terrorism have had on minority communities within DeKalb County.

**ADOPTED** by the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2018.

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**JEFF RADER**  
Presiding Officer  
Board of Commissioners  
DeKalb County, Georgia

**APPROVED** by the Chief Executive Officer of DeKalb County, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2018.

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**MICHAEL L. THURMOND**  
Chief Executive Officer  
DeKalb County, Georgia

**ATTEST:**

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**BARBARA H. SANDERS-NORWOOD, CCC**  
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners and  
Chief Executive Officer  
DeKalb County, Georgia

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

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**VIVIANE H. ERNSTES**  
Interim County Attorney  
DeKalb County, Georgia