

# ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE

**BARBARA MILLER-WILLIAMS**

*Legislator - 1st District*

**MEMBER:**

Government Affairs Committee  
Finance & Management Committee  
Health & Human Services Committee



EC LEG NOV 30 15 AM 10:43

427 William Street  
Buffalo, New York 14204

716/842-0490

FAX: 716/854-5722

**Nijae J. Davis**

*Legislative Assistant*

- 92 Franklin Street, 4th Floor  
Buffalo, New York 14202  
716/858-8825  
FAX: 716/858-8818

November 27, 2015

Erie County Legislature  
Karen McCarthy, Clerk  
92 Franklin Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Buffalo, NY 14202

Dear Ms. McCarthy:

Attached for Clock-In to the public record of the Erie County Legislature, please find a Memorial Resolution honoring the Life and Legacy of Community Organizer Mr. Moody W. Pugh, Jr.

Thank you for assistance with this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Miller-Williams".

Barbara Miller-Williams  
Erie County Legislator  
District 1

***"We are here to serve the Community"***

Website: [www.erie.gov/legislature/district01](http://www.erie.gov/legislature/district01) • E-Mail: [bmw@erie.gov](mailto:bmw@erie.gov)

## A Resolution submitted by Legislator Miller-Williams

**WHEREAS**, Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom, on Wednesday November 25, 2015, removed from our midst one of his own, Mr. Moody W. Pugh, Jr., in whose death we have lost a sincere and loyal friend, a valued and respected community leader, and whose family has lost a devoted man of God who loves the Lord; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Moody W. Pugh Jr. was born in Pensacola, Florida, Escambia County to parents Rev. Moody Pugh Sr. and Nazziree Randelson Pugh, he was blessed with four children, the late Lawrence Pugh, the late Lynette Pugh, Lamont Pugh and Tiggs Washington, one Goddaughter Champagne Woods, ten grandchildren, and sixteen great grandchildren; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Moody W. Pugh Jr. accepted Christ at an early age and joined Pace Temple Christian Methodist Episcopal Church; he later migrated from the south to Buffalo, New York in 1955 to establish New Mt. Olive CME Church. After a devastating fire at New Mt. Olive, he and his family joined Calvary CME Church under the leadership of Rev. Maurice L. Bolden; and

**WHEREAS**, as a member of Calvary CME, Mr. Moody W. Pugh Jr. led many people to make a change in their personal lives and he served as a tireless worker on many auxiliaries at the district and conference level throughout his life. He passionately loved singing which led him to form the "Sons of Calvary" a group of young men singing for Christ; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Moody W. Pugh Jr. demonstrated the true value of community involvement, his passion for social action began over fifty years ago as a young man growing up in the Ellicott Mall housing projects where he was elected as President of the Tenant Council for six years. As Assistant Director of the John F. Kennedy Community Center, Mr. Pugh was instrumental in developing youth and senior programs so that area residents would have a safe place to live and participate in the Ellicott District. The gymnasium of the John F. Kennedy Community Center was named in his honor on May 9, 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, during his tenure as Tenant Council President, Mr. Moody W. Pugh Jr. developed a passion for politics and went on to make a positive impact in the lives of many in the community through his involvement. He organized the

Ellicott Young Democratic Club and served as President for eight years and he also organized the Ellicott District Political Caucus which oriented many men and women to local politics. In 1972 he became the first African American Chairman of the Erie County Zone Leaders Association, a role in which he worked tirelessly to ensure that residents were engaged in social action. Working with many of our great leaders such as Charles Black, George K. Arthur, Barry and William Robinson, Phillip Twitty and Luke Brown, he discovered that he could help even more people through his political involvement and was able to secure employment for many young people living in the Ellicott District, many of whom still hold positions in city and county government; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Moody W. Pugh Jr.'s favorite scripture was Psalms 23 "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.... He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake .... Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever", he was a compassionate person whose greatest passion in life was caring for and loving his family.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that the Erie County Legislature does hereby mourn the passing of Mr. Moody W. Pugh, Jr., and pauses in its deliberations to honor and celebrate his life, his love for the community and his legacy of community activism. And be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Erie County Legislature offers our thoughts, prayers, and deepest sympathy to Mr. Moody W. Pugh Jr.'s wife Maryetta, family, friends and church members on the loss of this exceptional man of God who remains well loved by many.