

**A PROCLAMATION SUBMITTED BY
LEGISLATOR MILLER-WILLIAMS**

RE: Honoring Afro-American Police Association of Buffalo, Inc. on hosting its Annual Community Awards Banquet and Welcoming CNN Legal Analyst Joey Jackson as the Keynote Speaker for the Event

WHEREAS, the Afro-American Police Association of Buffalo, Inc. (AAPA) was formed in 1969 to provide Black officers with an avenue to combat the racial injustices that had been occurring in the Buffalo Police Department, they also became an action-oriented organization dedicated to the betterment of the community; and

WHEREAS, the founding officers of the AAPA included Ted Kirkland, Frank Hughes, Floyd Edwards, Donald Garrett, Joseph McKinnon, Ronald Miller, Katherine Robinson, Eugene Sloan, George Hughes, Marion Bass, Clifford Brockenton and William Wright, these officers mobilized a vision, a mission and a profound idea that was unprecedented at that time and their efforts helped to develop the National Black Police Association in St. Louis, Missouri in 1972; and

WHEREAS, the AAPA seeks to improve relations between law enforcement officers and the community, members of the organization dedicate their time to develop a special rapport with citizens throughout the City of Buffalo and are actively involved in community affairs; and

WHEREAS, the AAPA has maintained a primary focus on the retention of Black Police Officers, many whom were being denied the equal opportunity to ride in police cruisers or supervise White officers in several precincts in the 1960's, the organization won a landmark lawsuit against the City of Buffalo which resulted in a new minority hiring policy inclusive of Blacks, Hispanics, and Women; and

WHEREAS, the AAPA founding members implemented a bi-annual Community Awards Banquet to acknowledge members of the community and Police Officers who have taken part in acts of bravery and/or community service, the event is also an opportunity for seasoned members to be reengaged in recruitment and retention and for new members to get a better understanding of why the legacy of the AAPA is so important; and

WHEREAS, the 2016 Community Awards Banquet will be held on Friday October 28, the keynote address will be delivered by CNN Legal Analyst Joey Jackson, a nationally renowned criminal defense attorney and Senior Trial Counsel with the Koehler & Isaacs LLP law firm, representing individuals and labor unions in state and federal courts; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Joey Jackson holds a Bachelor of Arts from SUNY Brockport, while in undergrad he served as student body president, interned with Congressman Charles B. Rangel (D-NY) in Washington, D.C. and also worked for the New York City Mayor's Office in the Division of Special Projects; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Joey Jackson earned his Master of Public Administration from SUNY Albany's Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy, while in graduate school he worked for the New York State Assembly Speaker as a Legislative Analyst; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Joey Jackson went on to attend law school at Hofstra University, he was admitted to the New York State Bar Association in 1995 and was appointed as an Assistant District Attorney in Manhattan under the direction of former New York County District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau who was the third longest serving District Attorney in United States history; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Joey Jackson has practiced law for over 20 years, he also served as Chair of the Bronx County Democratic Committee and accomplished a successful career as a prosecutor where he received the Distinguished Public Service Award. He is married to Katia Hollant Jackson and they have two sons.

NOW, BE IT THEREFORE,

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature pauses in its deliberations to congratulate the Afro-American Police Association of Buffalo, Inc. for hosting its Annual Community Awards Banquet and further acknowledges the important work being done through the program to enrich the lives of Minority Police Officers throughout our county and community;

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature welcomes Mr. Joey Jackson, Esquire, Trial Counsel and CNN Legal Analyst to Erie County and acknowledges his selection as Keynote Speaker for this distinguished event.