

STATE OF NEW YORK  
LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY  
BUFFALO, NY, JULY 17, 2021

*Remembering and Honoring the Life of  
Jarred John "Weeze" Barker*

**WHEREAS**, Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom, on July 5, 2021, suddenly removed from our midst *Jarred John "Weeze" Barker*, in whose death we have lost a loving son, brother, friend, valued and respected citizen, and whose family has lost a leader, kind and devoted member; and

**WHEREAS**, *Jarred Barker*, the son of Otis T. Barker Sr. and Angela V. Barker was born on August 23, 1989; and

**WHEREAS**, at the age of eight, Jarred was baptized at St. John Baptist by the late Pastor Dr. Bennett W. Smith Sr. and was an active participant in Sunday School; Junior, Youth, and Young Adult Choir and also participated in Youth Bible Study and the Chess Ministry; and

**WHEREAS**, Jarred attended and excelled in the Buffalo Public Schools system as a student at City Honors; and

**WHEREAS**, Jarred lived life to the fullest as a well beloved son, brother, proud uncle, friend and also showed his gifts and talents as an exceptional multi-sport athlete, college student at Erie Community College, and podcast broadcaster; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Barker was not only a champion in the eyes of his family and friends, but also as an athlete who accumulated a number of awards starting at the age of 4 as a baseball phenomenon, a member of the Little League Baseball Hall of Fame, an MVP and 2-time champion of the North Buffalo Irish Little League football team, the manager of City Honors' New York State Class C Basketball Championship team, and an accomplished chess player under the mastery of the late James Ware; and

**WHEREAS**, Jarred's guidance from his parents Otis Sr. and Angela, along with a profound and industrious work ethic, was on full display as a full-time employee for the City of Buffalo Sewer Authority as a Millwright, as well as maintaining two other jobs as a part time Marshaller for Delta Airlines and as a Sales Associate for Finish Line Shoe Store; and

**WHEREAS**, Jarred not only captured the attention of many with his enthusiastic personality, vibrant smile and his love and support for the Buffalo Bills and New York Yankees, but also devoted his time to value his close relationships with his siblings, Otis Jr., Ondrea, and Peyton, how he garnered close relationships with a number of young men who had become "blood brothers" like the 4J's (Jarred Barker, Jarrett Jackson, Jarred Shaw, and Julian M. Ladd) and other friends who formed groups like "Ocho" and "First Class", two groups who shared countless memories through their love for music and epic parties; and

**WHEREAS**, one of Jarred's most treasured moments in his life was being a role model as "Uncle Weeze" to his three heartbeats; Destiny, Olivia and Omeir; and

**WHEREAS**, Jarred. was predeceased in death by his paternal grandparents, the late Clinton Barker and Gwendolyn Beckham-Barker; maternal grandfather, Valgene D. Liggins Sr.; one uncle, Valgene D. Liggins Jr. and first cousin, Eddie Scott Jr.; and

**WHEREAS**, the life and legacy of Jarred Barker will continue to live and prosper on Earth through his parents, Otis T. Sr. and Angela V. (nee Liggins) Barker; his beloved siblings, Otis "O.J." Barker Jr., Ondrea Barker and Peyton T. Barker; his beautiful nieces Destiny V. Barker-Cannon and Olivia T. Barker, his nephew, Omeir I. Cannon; one goddaughter, Naas Kimiko Jackson; godmother, Pamela (Mark) Johnson; two aunts, Denise (Charley, III) Fisher and Tonya Barker; four uncles, John (Allison), Clinton (Carmen), Todd Sr (Tammy) Barker and Durshawn Liggins; 1<sup>st</sup> cousins, Richard (Stephanie) Liggins, Keishon Keese, Brian Hanesworth, Jan'ay Barker, Miles Barker, Alicia Barker, Todd Barker, Austin Barker, Traevon Barker, Mahogany Barker, Tia Barker and also his extended family "Ocho", "First Class" and a host of other relatives and cherished friends; and

**WHEREAS**, as a lifelong resident of Buffalo, Jarred served our community with honor and distinction as a young man who dedicated his life to bettering the quality of life of others like himself; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the sense of this Legislative Body to honor and pay tribute to the life of *Jarred John "Weeze" Barker* whose lifelong dedication to God, family and community are an inspiration to be admired, emulated and honored.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that the Erie County Legislature does hereby mourn the passing of *Jarred John "Weeze" Barker* and pause in its deliberations to recognize his praiseworthy life, his love of family and for his commitment and devotion to the betterment of our community; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Erie County Legislature express its sympathy and condolences to the Barker family and to Jarred's many friends, knowing full well that he has received his eternal and glorified reward in Heaven, having heard the consoling words of the Master, "*Well done, thou good and faithful servant.*"

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**Hon. Howard J. Johnson Jr.**  
*Erie County Legislator, 1<sup>st</sup> District*

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**Hon. April N.M. Baskin**  
*Erie County Legislator, 2<sup>nd</sup> District*