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Councilmember Kenyan R. McDuffie

  
Councilmember Charles Allen

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

13 To honor and recognize Kwame Onwuachi and to recognize the impact that he  
14 has made through his entrepreneurship and engagement in Wards 5 and 6, and the  
15 District of Columbia.

16 WHEREAS, Kwame Onwuachi was born in Long Island, New York and grew up  
17 in the Bronx;

18 WHEREAS, after overcoming a difficult upbringing, Kwame Onwuachi peddled  
19 candy on the New York subway and used the funds to finance his catering business;

20 WHEREAS, in 2013, Kwame Onwuachi graduated from the Culinary Institute of  
21 America and worked at "Per Se" and "Eleven Madison Park," celebrated elite restaurants  
22 in Manhattan;

23 WHEREAS, in 2015, Kwame Onwuachi was featured as a prominent contestant,  
24 finishing in third place on the "Bravo" television series "Top Chef;"

25 WHEREAS, Kwame Onwuachi moved to the District of Columbia in 2015 and  
26 soon after opened his own restaurant in a converted townhouse in the Shaw  
27 neighborhood named the "Shaw Bijou;"

28 WHEREAS, in late 2017, Kwame Onwuachi became the only African American to  
29 open a restaurant at the Southwest Wharf in the InterContinental Hotel called "Kith and  
30 Kin" that serves opulent Afro-Caribbean food;

31 WHEREAS, in recognizing the success of "Kith and Kin," *Forbes* awarded him a  
32 position on the "30 Under 30" list;

33 WHEREAS, in 2019, Kwame Onwuachi was named Rising Star Chef of the Year at  
34 the James Beard Awards and *Food & Wine* magazine named him one of its Best New  
35 Chefs;

36 WHEREAS, in 2019, Kwame Onwuachi released his auto biography "Notes from  
37 a Young Black Chef: A Memoir," which admirably illustrates the extreme highs and lows  
38 of his extensive journey to becoming a successful chef in an elite and relentless industry;

39 WHEREAS, Kwame Onwuachi was featured on "The Daily Show" where he  
40 announced that his autobiography will be adapted into a feature film;

41 WHEREAS, Kwame Onwuachi has been an active member of his community  
42 where he fundraises for non-profit organizations such as No Hungry Kid and DC Central  
43 Kitchen; and

44 WHEREAS, Kwame Onwuachi has served his community in the District of  
45 Columbia in a variety of ways, including hiring and mentoring at-risk adults, and has  
46 had an immense impact on the lives of our residents.

47 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this  
48 resolution may be cited as the "Kwame Onwuachi Ceremonial Recognition Resolution of  
49 2019".

50 Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes and honors Kwame  
51 Onwuachi for his culinary contributions, his entrepreneurial spirit, and his commitment  
52 to the District of Columbia.

53 Sec. 3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of  
54 publication in the District of Columbia Register.