

RESOLUTION NO. RS2018-1357

A resolution recognizing Dawn Deaner for 22 years of dedicated service to the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County.

WHEREAS, Dawn Deaner will be ending her term with the Nashville Public Defender's Office at the end of August 2018, after over 20 years of faithful service to the city of Nashville and Davidson County; and

WHEREAS, Dawn Deaner first joined the Public Defender's office in 1996, and worked as an Assistant Public Defender for Nashville for 11 years before becoming Public Defender in 2008; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Deaner earned a Bachelor of Arts in English from Columbia College in 1993, and her Juris Doctor from George Washington University Law School in 1996; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her duties as Public Defender, Dawn also devoted time to teaching Trial Advocacy at Vanderbilt University Law School for many years; and

WHEREAS, Dawn Deaner is a member of several legal organizations and also serves on the Family Reconciliation Center Board, the Mayor's Criminal Justice Steering Committee, and the Davidson County Community Corrections Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, some of Dawn Deaner's recent notable honors include the Tennessee Bar Association's Ashley T. Wiltshire Public Service Attorney of the Year award (2011), and Gideon's Promise's Stephen B. Bright Award (2012), recognizing Ms. Deaner's work to improve indigent defense in the South; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Deaner has consistently been a vocal champion of criminal justice causes during her tenure, taking on issues of mass incarceration; and

WHEREAS, most recently, Dawn Deaner spearheaded "Defend Nashville", a five-part community empowerment initiative to help unite the Public Defender's Office, their client community, and other Nashvillians into a grassroots movement powerful enough to bring meaningful criminal justice reform to the courthouse; and

WHEREAS, the initiative seeks to engage and educate all Nashvillians in the critical issues faced by public defenders and their clients; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Deaner has served the Metropolitan Government, and most importantly, the citizens of Nashville and Davidson County with integrity, high ethical standards, and compassion for over 20 years; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that the Metropolitan Council recognize Dawn Deaner for her dedicated service to the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, and wish her continued success in her future endeavors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY:

Section 1. The Metropolitan Council hereby goes on record as recognizing Dawn Deaner for her faithful service to the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County.

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect from and after its adoption, the welfare of The Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County requiring it.

INTRODUCED BY:

Nancy VanReece

Jim Shulman
Members of Council