

**RESOLUTION NO. 170916**

**A resolution of the City Commission of the City of  
Gainesville, Florida, to recognize the State of  
Florida's honorary designation of a Section of NE  
8th Avenue between 15th Street and NE 26th  
Terrace as "Rev. Dr. Thomas A. Wright Boulevard."**

WHEREAS, in 2017 the State Legislature and Governor of Florida approved CS/CS/Senate Bill No. 368 (now Chapter 2017-193, Laws of Florida) which includes the honorary designation of a section of NE 8th Avenue between NE 15th Street and NE 26th Terrace as "Rev. Dr. Thomas A. Wright Boulevard" and directs the Florida Department of Transportation to erect suitable markers, and

WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Thomas A. Wright was a City of Gainesville resident, and became pastor of the Mount Carmel Baptist Church in Gainesville, Florida from 1962-2006, and

WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Thomas A. Wright's daughter, LaVon Wright (Bracy), Wright became the first African-American to graduate from Gainesville High School due to Rev. Dr. Wright's advocacy for equal rights, and

WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Thomas A. Wright served as President of the Alachua County Branch of the NAACP, and

WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Thomas A. Wright, founded the first child-care center for black children in Gainesville in 1968, and

WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Thomas A. Wright, on August 10, 2002, joined a select company African-Americans previously honored by the University of Florida, with an honorary Doctor of Public Service Degree at the Summer Commencement, and

WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Thomas A. Wright, passed away on December 9, 2014, and

WHEREAS, the City Commission recognizes Rev. Dr. Thomas A. Wright for his devotion and contributions to the Gainesville community, and the many lives he touched and influenced.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE  
CITY OF GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA:**

Section 1. That the Commission recognizes the State of Florida's honorary designation of a section of NE 8th Avenue between NE 15th Street and NE 26th Terrace as "Rev. Dr. Thomas A. Wright Boulevard."

Section 2. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 5th day of April, 2018.

---

Lauren Poe  
Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

---

Omichele Gainey  
Clerk of the Commission

---

Nicolle Shalley  
City Attorney