

City of Gainesville, Florida

Office of Mayor Lauren Poe
PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Chief Atkins W. Warren served as the first black police chief of the Gainesville Police Department (GPD) from 1980 to 1984; and

WHEREAS, Chief Warren had a strong desire and commitment to serving and providing social justice to the community. He worked tirelessly to quell racial tension between law enforcement and the black community in Gainesville and instated a policy to deter his officers from shooting at fleeing suspects; and

WHEREAS, Chief Warren was a founding member and President of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE). The organization worked to get blacks hired and promoted in the department; and

WHEREAS, after his retirement from GPD he moved to Washington, D.C. where he worked for the U.S. Department of Justice as a mediator in race relations; and

WHEREAS, in 2003 Chief Warren moved back to Gainesville after meeting and then marrying Mrs. Carrie Parker-Warren; and

WHEREAS, Chief Warren established Atkins Warren and Associates, a consulting firm specializing in race relations. He educated others locally and internationally on law enforcement and on ways to resolve and prevent racial conflict. Chief Warren was involved in Black on Black Crime Task Force and he did consulting work with the Sheriff's Office; and

WHEREAS, Chief Warren was a spokesman for fair and equitable treatment for people who came in contact with the criminal justice system. He aimed for justice in the lowering of crime and resolving racial conflicts through meditation and reconciliation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lauren Poe, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim January 18, 2018 as

Chief Atkins W. Warren Day

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in paying tribute to him on this day and honoring his legacy, and multitude of achievements.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 10th day of January, A.D., 2018.

Lauren Poe
Mayor