



City of Palo Alto

City Council Staff Report

(ID # 7734)

Report Type: Special Orders of the Day Meeting Date: 2/13/2017

Summary Title: Proclamation Honoring Clarence B. Jones

Title: Proclamation of the Council of the City of Palo Alto Honoring Clarence B. Jones

From: City Manager

Lead Department: City Clerk

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Proclamation Honoring Clarence B. Jones



Proclamation

Honoring Clarence B. Jones

WHEREAS, Palo Alto is proud to honor as one of our most esteemed residents, Clarence B. Jones, veteran of the historic Civil Rights Movement, author, accomplished speaker, scholar, business leader, and close associate of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Clarence B. Jones served as political advisor, personal attorney and speech writer for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., beginning in 1961, participated in the writing of Dr. King's historic 1963 "I Have a Dream" speech, and helped to negotiate the end of the Attica Prison inmate rebellion in New York in 1971; and

WHEREAS, Clarence B. Jones is the author of two books, "What Would Martin Say?" and "Behind the Dream: The Making of the Speech that Transformed a Nation," and continues to be a much requested speaker and featured legacy documentary subject; and

WHEREAS, Clarence B. Jones has been honored with numerous awards and recognitions and honorary degrees by universities, civic, legal and faith organizations, business associations, and international venues; and

WHEREAS, Clarence B. Jones is today a Scholar in Residence at the Stanford Martin Luther King, Jr. Research and Education Institute, and a Diversity Visiting Professor at the University of San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, Clarence B. Jones generously contributes to our local community by participating in educational and civil rights programs, including Youth Community Service students and the 2013 "Let Freedom Ring" 50th Anniversary of the March on Washington here in Palo Alto; and

WHEREAS, Clarence B. Jones continues to challenge us here in Silicon Valley to address issues of equity in employment, education, and housing.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, H. Gregory Scharff, Mayor of the City of Palo Alto, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby recognize Clarence B. Jones as a community hero and extend appreciation for his years of valuable contributions and service.

Presented: February 13, 2017

H. Gregory Scharff
Mayor