



**Metro Public Health Dept**

Nashville / Davidson County

Protecting, Improving, and Sustaining Health

# Resolution

Whereas, in any enterprise there are those who say and there are those who act; and,

Whereas, when those who say leave, it mostly gets quieter; when those who act leave, there's a gap to be filled; and,

Whereas, with the departure of Tina Lester, the Metro Public Health Department has a gap to fill; and,

Whereas, over a long and varied career Tina has devoted nearly 25 years of her life and determined effort to improve the lives of people through her work at MPHD; and,

Whereas, Tina earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Florida in 1976 and her Master of Science in Nursing Administration from Vanderbilt University in 1992; and,

Whereas, in two stints at MPHD she has been director of the Healthy Start program; a Regional Team Director; the program director for a Community Health Action Team, STDFree; project director for Music City Healthy Start; assistant director for the Communicable Disease bureau; assistant director of the Family, Youth and Infant Health bureau; director of the Population Health bureau; interim co-director of the Department of Health during COVID; and interim Chief Administrative Director for MPHD; and,

Whereas, whew!; and,

Whereas, in her spare time (spare time?) Tina has helped people file their federal income taxes as an agent for H&R Block ; and,

Whereas, it will not be lost on even a casual observer that all of these things are in direct service to some of the most disadvantaged people in our community; and,

Whereas, this steady accretion of responsibility in numerous areas of great need is no accident, but a matter of Tina's character and her heart; and,

Whereas, despite her numerous accomplishments in the field of public health, Tina might well tell you that her greatest accomplishments came at home; where she and Michael Lester have been married nearly five decades and raised four children; Michael Lester II, Nathan Lester, Sabrina Guiton and Stephanie Lester; and,

Whereas, among them they have blessed her and Michael with eight beautiful grandchildren: and,

Whereas, she has done all of this with grace, patience, understanding and kindness, and in addition she did it with hardly anybody knowing her real given name;

## **Wilburene Santina Lester**

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved that the Metropolitan Board of Health of Nashville and Davidson County, on this 14<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2022, extends its sincerest thanks and appreciation to Wilburene Santina Lester for her 24 years of dedicated service to the Metro Public Health Department and to the health and well-being of the citizens of Nashville and Davidson County, and wishes her the best of fortune in whatever the next chapter of life should offer.

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**Tené H. Franklin MS, Chair**

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