

Senate Resolution 965

By: Senators Halpern of the 39th, Wicks of the 34th, Orrock of the 36th and Davenport of the 17th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring Chief Latosha Clemons for her historic leadership, trailblazing service, and
2 distinguished contributions to fire service and public administration; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Chief Latosha Clemons serves as the City of Forest Park's first African
4 American woman Fire Chief, exemplifying professionalism, leadership, and a steadfast
5 commitment to excellence in public service; and

6 WHEREAS, with more than 25 years of fire service experience, Chief Clemons began her
7 career in 1996 with the Boynton Beach Fire Rescue Department as the first African
8 American woman in the department's history, marking the beginning of a pioneering and
9 impactful career; and

10 WHEREAS, Chief Clemons has demonstrated a lifelong dedication to education and
11 leadership development, earning associate degrees in Emergency Medical Services and Fire
12 Science, a bachelor's degree in Organizational Leadership, and a master's degree in Executive
13 Management; and

14 WHEREAS, Chief Clemons further strengthened her leadership capacity through advanced
15 training, including the Carl Holmes Executive Development Institute, the National Fire

16 Academy's four-year Executive Fire Officers Program in Emmitsburg, Maryland, and the
17 Fire Service Development Program; and

18 WHEREAS, Chief Clemons' professional service extends beyond operational leadership
19 through active involvement in organizations such as the International Association of Black
20 Professional Fire Fighters, Women in Fire, the International Association of Fire Chiefs, and
21 the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, where she serves as President of the South Palm
22 Beach County Chapter; and

23 WHEREAS, on August 18, 2025, Chief Clemons was appointed Interim City Manager by
24 the Forest Park City Council, further reflecting the confidence placed in her leadership,
25 experience, and vision; and

26 WHEREAS, Chief Clemons' career reflects perseverance, resilience, and a commitment to
27 uplifting communities, having navigated personal and financial challenges while continuing
28 to pursue excellence in service and leadership; and

29 WHEREAS, Chief Latosha Clemons' legacy stands as a testament to trailblazing leadership,
30 determination, and service-driven impact, inspiring future generations of public servants.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
32 honor and commend Chief Latosha Clemons for her historic leadership, trailblazing
33 achievements, and distinguished service in the fire service and public administration.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
35 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Chief Latosha
36 Clemons.