

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

*No. 282*

Approved May 23, 2019

WHEREAS, Prince Hall, a prominent citizen in Boston, Massachusetts, founded the African Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Boston, the world's first lodge of black Freemason; and

WHEREAS, This was the creation of the first society in American History aimed at the social, political, and economic improvement of African-Americans in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Prince Hall established African Lodges in Boston, Philadelphia, and Providence; and

WHEREAS, He was dedicated to advancing the rights of blacks, the end of slavery, and educational equality; and

WHEREAS, As such, Prince Hall is considered the “father of African Freemasonry” to this day; and

WHEREAS, Upon his passing, his brethren created the African Grand Lodge, which declared its independence from the United Grand Lodge of England and all other lodges in 1827; and

WHEREAS, In 1847, the African Grand Lodge was re-named to Prince Hall Grand Lodge in honor of Prince Hall; and

WHEREAS, In Providence, the Prince Hall Grand Masons Lodge of Rhode Island was established in 1808; and

WHEREAS, The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Rhode Island Jurisdictions, Inc., is a fraternal organization founded upon ideals of liberty, equality and peace; and

WHEREAS, The organization is dedicated to taking good men and building and developing them to be better men; and

WHEREAS, They dispense charity, promote good and solid family values, and endeavor significantly to aid in the uplifting of humanity; and

WHEREAS, Their community outreach is diverse and spans the gamut of service from birth to seniors, such as providing books and clothing for children at the Roger Williams Day Care Center, partnering with the Rhode Island Blood Center for Sickle Cell Awareness and Bone Marrow Donor Drives, providing scholarships to students, and collecting shoes to send to the Republic of Congo; and

WHEREAS, It is a fitting to honor Prince Hall and the Prince Hall Grand Masons Lodge by ceremonially designating Eddy Street Between Thurbers Ave and Rhodes Street “Prince Hall Way”.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of the City of Providence does hereby honor Prince Hall and the Prince Hall Grand Masons Lodge of Rhode Island by naming Eddy Street Between Thurbers Ave and Rhodes Street, "Prince Hall Way".

IN CITY COUNCIL

MAY 16 2019

READ AND PASSED

Sabina Nates  
PRES.

Shawn Belkch  
CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE.

[Signature]  
Mayor

Date: 5/23/19