

## THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

MAYOR DOMENIC J. SARNO

HOME OF THE BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME

## PROCLAMATION

Whereas, Two gentlemen by the names of Gleason T. Jackson and Melvin Charles both residents of Linden, NJ have dedicated so much of their lives towards the recognition and creation of the "The Negro American Flag" which was completely designed band patented in 1967 and renamed years later to keep peace with the times to the "Black American Heritage Flag"; and

Where as, The purpose of this symbol is to convey and represent pride and to remind everyone that the history of Black people is an honorable one, full of the pain remembered from the degrading days of slavery, to the undeniable contributions to the history of the United States; and

Where as, The design, color and symbols that were chosen by Jackson and Charles for the "Black American Heritage Flag" carry with them an important piece of the Black American history which shall forever remind each Black American of his/her past and unlimited potential for the future; and

Now, Therefore, I, Domenic J. Sarno, Mayor

of the City of Springfield, do hereby proclaim

February 1, 2013 as

"Black American Heritage Flag Day"

in the City of Springfield, Massachusetts.

In the City of Springfield, and I urge all our citizens to join with me in celebrating the raising of the Black American Heritage Flag.

DØMENIC J. SARNO, MAYOR

God Bless