

BY: Senator PARKER

COMMENDING Check On Your Black Friends Inc. upon the occasion of hosting its Fourth Annual Juneteenth Celebration on June 19, 2024

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to organizations of true purpose and worthy accomplishment which are dedicated to serving their community and to celebrating and preserving their rich ethnic heritage; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Check On Your Black Friends Inc. upon the occasion of hosting its Fourth Annual Juneteenth Celebration from June 11-19, 2024; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious occasion will be observed with an event held on Wednesday, June 19, 2024, at the Roy Wilkins Park in St. Albans, New York; it will feature over 60 Black-owned businesses on grounds ranging from beauty, fashion, wellness, health and art; and

WHEREAS, In addition, the celebration consists of a weeklong education series whose panelists range from esteemed Black elected officials, civic leaders, professors, creative thinkers, journalists, musicians, and performers; and

WHEREAS, The series aims to empower younger generations while also bringing wisdom and healing and has attracted 3,000 attendees in the past; and

WHEREAS, This year's series will feature distinctive voices and elevated dialogues centered around Black futurism, environmental justice, housing equity, and sharing more personal accounts of the African diaspora's experience in America; and

WHEREAS, The celebration of Juneteenth allowed freed slaves and their descendants to recount the memories of that great day in 1865, when freedom was proclaimed, and also served as a release from the pressures of settling into new territories; and

WHEREAS, Today, Juneteenth is a time for reflection, education, and self-improvement, and celebrates African American freedom and achievements while encouraging continuous self-development and respect for all cultures; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when organizations of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be recognized and celebrated by all the citizens of the great State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Check On Your Black Friends Inc. upon the occasion of hosting

its Fourth Annual Juneteenth Celebration from June 11-19, 2024; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Check On Your Black Friends Inc.