

Senate Resolution No. 1615

BY: Senator PARKER

HONORING Rhonda Shamin Binda, Esq. upon the occasion of being recognized at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Visionary Awards Gala on March 22, 2026

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those exceptional leaders whose public service, civic innovation, and commitment to justice reflect the enduring moral vision and transformative legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Rhonda Shamin Binda, Esq. upon the occasion of her recognition at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Visionary Awards Gala, to be held on Sunday, March 22, 2026; and

WHEREAS, A visionary leader globally recognized for building smart, safe, and compassionate cities, Rhonda Shamin Binda has distinguished herself as a People's Choice honoree for her pioneering work advancing public safety, civic engagement, and inclusive urban innovation; and

WHEREAS, Rhonda Shamin Binda currently serves as Special Counsel to Public Safety and Emergency Management at the New York City Office of Technology & Innovation, where she provides strategic leadership at the critical intersection of technology, emergency preparedness, and community protection; and

WHEREAS, Her record of executive leadership includes service as Chief Executive Officer of the People's House at the Gracie Mansion Conservancy, where she successfully led the reopening of Gracie Mansion following the COVID-19 pandemic, restoring public access and civic programming at full capacity; and

WHEREAS, As Queens Deputy Borough President, Rhonda Shamin Binda played a pivotal role in pandemic response and recovery, helping guide Queens from being the epicenter of the crisis to becoming the most vaccinated county in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Rhonda Shamin Binda's distinguished federal service includes serving as a United States diplomat under President Barack Obama, working in the West Wing of the White House under President Bill Clinton, and contributing to national policy through her work with the United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary; and

WHEREAS, Born in the South Bronx and raised in Queens, New York, Rhonda Shamin Binda's life and career reflect a steadfast dedication to public service and community empowerment, further exemplified through her leadership as National Political Director for the Association of South Asian American Labor; and

WHEREAS, In addition to her governmental service, Rhonda Shamin Binda is committed to academic mentorship and civic education, serving as an Adjunct Professor at CUNY Medgar Evers College and Queens College, shaping the next generation of leaders; and

WHEREAS, An accomplished scholar, Rhonda Shamin Binda is a graduate of Duke University and Georgetown University Law Center and was honored as a Lord Rothermere Scholar at Oxford University, reflecting academic distinction and global perspective; and

WHEREAS, Rhonda Shamin Binda continues her grassroots leadership as Queens County District Leader for Richmond Hill, Queens, advancing civic participation and neighborhood advocacy; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Rhonda Shamin Binda, Esq. upon the occasion of her recognition at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Visionary Awards Gala, and to commend her for her visionary leadership, public service, and steadfast commitment to justice and community advancement; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Rhonda Shamin Binda, Esq. as a lasting expression of the highest respect and admiration of this Legislative Body.