



March 31, 2022

MEMBERS of the City of South Miami Commission:

Mayor Sally Philips
Commissioner Corey, Brian
Commissioner Gil, Luis
Commissioner Harris, Walter, And
Commissioner Liebman, Josh

6130 Sunset Drive
South Miami, FL 33143

SUBJECT: STREET SIGN NAMED IN HONOR OF THE MCCANTS

Dear South Miami Commission:

We, members of the Concerned Citizens and Clergy Coalition, think that it is befitting to thank you all and to congratulate you all for your recognizing the massive work and contributions, by the McCants, to establish the street sign - **"James and Joann Jeffery McCants Way"**.

We are expressing our sincere gratitude because we can attest to the several deeds of hard work and contributory actions that James and Rev. Dr. Joann Jeffery McCants have made and that James continues to make, daily, in and to the City of South Miami.

Mr. James McCants is a workhorse! And he is a workhorse for the peoples and for the City of South Miami.

He is reliable. He is gregarious and serious about helping the people of the City of South Miami and surrounding communities. He is extremely considerate, respectful, and helpful to All people of the City of South Miami. He puts out his very best for ALL – young, old, all colors and races of people, elected and non-elected, business and non-business residents, and for civic organizations and groups!

Mr. James McCants has made many contributions to the residents and businesses of the City, via his work and orientation to the history, the present, and the future progress of the City. In that regard, he has helped indigent and elderly people retain and repair their homes, by helping them get grants to repair their roofs and keep their buildings from collapsing from rot. And he, simultaneously, has helped local businesses in the same manner as he helped private homeowners.

Mr. James McCants also, currently, continues to work hard with the City's Marshall Williamson' Scholarship Program. He diligently helps to recruit, process applicants, and helps to facilitate the

students' successfully getting through their college careers. And all of his efforts have helped to shine a positive and a successful light on the very important City of South Miami Marshall Williamson Scholarship Program.

Mr. James McCants always goes the extra mile, with whatever he does for people and for the City of South Miami. Simply, he never stops helping PEOPLE!

And although James' spouse, Rev. Dr. Joann Jeffery McCants, is now deceased, she equally contributed to the wellbeing of communities in South Miami and beyond (like Coconut Grove, Perrine, FL, etc.).

Rev. Dr. Joann McCants did tremendous deeds for the welfare of many, many people. She worked tirelessly to bring people together, harmoniously. She was highly recognized and praised for the nicely presented and luscious meals she happily labored to prepare and share with members of the community. People would travel from both near and far for a plate of Rev. Dr. McCants' home-cooked meals!

Rev. Dr. McCants performed these deeds of creating a fruitful ambiance, both during times of happiness between people and/or times of controversy between people. There were sometimes that people had grievance with others, and Rev. Dr. McCants would display her peace-keeping armor. She would set the stage and the delicious dishes for people to come together, network, and fellowship to allay and/or to mend their grievances and controversies they may have had between one another. Wow, what wonderful and very, very important actions!

Rev. Dr. McCants never let any member of the community, on her watch, go hungry or unclothed. She created all types of methods and outlets to help feed the hungry and to clothe the clothesless. She provided hot meals to the elderly. She donated turkeys to families in need during the holidays, and donated clothing in the community. She sponsored and participated in back-to-school supply giveaways to the youth. And among these deeds, she would walk, visit with, pray with, and talk with the sick and shut-in. And, again, she performed in this manner in our City of South Miami, as well as in other communities.

In regards to James and Rev. Dr. Joann McCants' sharing in and beyond the City of South Miami, these two people united in 2006 and founded the New Life Community Outreach Ministries (NLCOM), in their home in the City of South Miami. And today, the NLCOM physically stands in Richmond Heights, a community in the South area of Miami-Dade County.

Rev. Dr. McCants' driving inspiration in founding NLCOM was that God was the number-one priority in her and James' lives. And God gave them the mind, body, and soul to actualize both their mission and passion of spreading His word, and continuing to help many, many people who desire better, more prosperous and more fulfilling lives – spiritually and/or materially.

The "... McCants Way" street sign will stand and wave in the McCants' immediate neighborhood, for all the neighbors, relatives, and other members of the City to see. And we trust and believe that displaying this (as well as the other street signs, in the City, that display people's names) will serve as a legacy to inspire many people to continue to work hard and dependably; to help people sacrifice and give effort to help other people and the City; to be a monument and a demonstration, esp. to young people that the City values and rewards giving great deeds to the community, and to communicate to all of the

peoples of South Miami that the City, from an array of ways, will reward people who put others before themselves, for the greater Good of all!

Also, this is a terrific time and a terrific physical location for the City to honor these two, grand McCants with a street sign. At this time, with the aid of the United Survivors Group, the City is accenting its domain by applauding the painting of the wall that goes northbound, starting at S. W. 64 Street and 62 Avenue. That wall, once upon a time, was used to separate the races (i.e. the color) of people in South Miami. Now in view of the painting, the wall will be used to depict some of the historical and current events and some of the historical and current, contributory individuals, especially in this corridor of the City. We believe the City's recognition and applause for painting and decoration of the wall is going to give some deserving people some deserved pride. And yes! That wall is located directly behind the McCants' residence!

To the City of South Miami Commission, as stated earlier, we are grateful to you for recognizing and honoring the McCants, here and now - in the presence of all - for their great deeds in the City and for the City - past, present and future!

We respectfully request that this letter of gratitude and support becomes a part of the documentation and records that accompany "**James and Joann Jeffery McCants Way**".

Sincerely,



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AND



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C: M-DC Commissioner Regalado, Raquel A.
M-DC Dist. 7; Ms. Hernandez, Cynthia