



# Agenda Report

2725 Judge Fran Jamieson  
Way  
Viera, FL 32940

## Resolution/Award/Presentation

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E.1.

3/23/2021

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**Subject:**

Resolution recognizing Harry Tyson and Harriette Vyda Simms Moore's contributions to Brevard County, State of Florida and the Nation as civil rights activists, martyrs and educators.

**Fiscal Impact:**

None

**Dept/Office:**

District 1

**Requested Action:**

It is requested the Board approve a Resolution recognizing the contributions of Harry Tyson and Harriette Vyda Simms Moore

**Summary Explanation and Background:**

Harry Tyson and Harriette Vyda Simms Moore made many contributions to Brevard County, State of Florida and the Nation as civil rights activists, martyrs and educators.

**Clerk to the Board Instructions:**

1 framed resolution



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March 24, 2021

**M E M O R A N D U M**

**TO:** Commissioner Rita Pritchett, District 1

**Attn:** Carol Mascellino

**RE:** Item E.1., Resolution Recognizing Harry Tyson and Harriette Vyda Simms Moore's Contributions to Brevard County, State of Florida, and the Nation as Civil Rights Activists, Martyrs, and Educators

The Board of County Commissioners, in regular session on March 23, 2021, adopted Resolution No. 21-028, recognizing Harry Tyson and Harriette Vyda Simms contributions to Brevard County, State of Florida, and the Nation as Civil Rights Activists, Martyrs and Educators. Enclosed is a copy of the Resolution.

Your continued cooperation is always appreciated.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
RACHEL M. SADOFF, CLERK

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kimberly Powell".

Kimberly Powell, Clerk to the Board

/dt

Encl. (1)

# Brevard



# County

## BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

### Resolution

**WHEREAS, HARRY TYSON MOORE**, born on November 18, 1905, and his wife, **HARRIETTE VYDA SIMMS MOORE**, born on June 19, 1902, were educators and civil rights activists in the State of Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1934, **HARRY TYSON MOORE** established the first Brevard County branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and became its president in 1941, and in 1945 organized the Progressive Voters League; and

**WHEREAS, HARRY TYSON MOORE** was instrumental in the registration of 116,000 black voters in Florida who became eligible to vote, markedly higher than in any other southern state, and taught his students how to cast ballots; and

**WHEREAS**, on Christmas night 1951, the **MOORE'S** home in Mims, Florida was bombed, and **HARRY TYSON MOORE** was killed, and **HARRIETTE** was fatally injured, dying nine days later; and

**WHEREAS**, the location of the original **MOORE** family home site was purchased by Brevard County in 1994, and the **MOORE** Cultural Center was dedicated in April 2004, and the legacy of **HARRY TYSON MOORE** and **HARRIETTE VYDA SIMMS MOORE** is honored at **HARRY T. & HARRIETTE V. MOORE** Memorial Park and Museum located at their homesite in Mims, Florida through the implementations of cultural outreach programs and educational exhibits located inside the museum dedicated to the couples life and sacrifice; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1994 the Brevard County Courthouse in Viera, Florida was named **HARRY & HARRIETTE MOORE JUSTICE CENTER**; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2007, the Florida Humanities Council recognized **HARRY T. MOORE** as one of the "Great Floridians", and dedicated a portion of Highway 46 as the **HARRY T. & HARRIETTE V. MOORE** Memorial Highway by an act of the Florida Legislature August 24, 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2013 the Cocoa Village Post Office was renamed the **HARRY T. & HARRIETTE V. MOORE** Post Office, and the **Moore** Family artifacts were transferred to the African American Smithsonian Museum to become part of the **HARRY & HARRIETTE MOORE** exhibit in the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History & Culture in Washington, D.C., and the **Moore**s were inducted into the Florida Civil Rights Hall of Fame in Tallahassee; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2019 Visit Florida announced that five of the six new sites added to the U.S. Civil Right Trail by the U.S. Civil Rights Trail Marketing Alliance are Florida landmarks, and **HARRY T. & HARRIETTE V. MOORE** Memorial Park & Museum is on the site; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2021 the Brevard County School Board reinstated the **Moore**s, recognizing the unjust firing and posthumously declaring them "Brevard Public Schools Teachers Emeritus".

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, OF BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA**, join in recognizing

**HARRY TYSON AND HARRIETTE VYDA SIMMS MOORE'S**

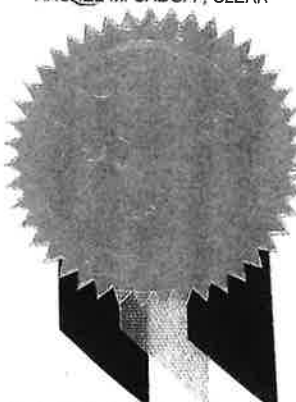
contributions to Brevard County, State of Florida, and the Nation as civil rights activists, martyrs, and educators.

**DONE, ORDERED AND ADOPTED**, in regular session, this 23rd day of March, 2021.

ATTEST:

  
RACHEL M. SADOFF, CLERK

  
RITA PRITCHETT, CHAIR  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA



## **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, Harry Tyson Moore, born on November 18, 1905, and his wife, Harriette Vyda Simms Moore, born on June 19, 1902, were educators and civil rights activists in the State of Florida, and

**WHEREAS**, in 1934, Harry Tyson Moore established the first Brevard County branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and became its president in 1941, and in 1945 organized the Progressive Voters League, and

**WHEREAS**, Harry Tyson Moore was instrumental in the registration of 116,000 black voters in Florida who became eligible to vote, markedly higher than in any other southern state, and taught his students how to cast ballots, and

**WHEREAS**, on Christmas Night 1951, the Moore's home in Mims, Florida was bombed, and Harry Tyson Moore was killed, and Harriette was fatally injured, dying nine days later, and

**WHEREAS**, the location of the original Moore family home site was purchased by Brevard County in 1994, and the Moore Cultural Center was dedicated in April 2004; the legacy of Harry Tyson Moore and Harriette Vyda Simms Moore is honored at Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore Memorial Park and Museum located at their homesite in Mims, Florida through the implementations of cultural outreach programs and educational exhibits located inside the museum dedicated to the couple life and sacrifice, and

**WHEREAS**, in 1994 the Brevard County Courthouse in Viera, Florida was named Harry & Harriette Moore Justice Center, and

**WHEREAS**, in 2007, the Florida Humanities Council recognized Harry T. Moore as one of the "Great Floridians", and

**WHEREAS**, dedication of a portion of Hwy 46 as the Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore Memorial Highway by an act of the Florida Legislature August 24, 2012, and

**WHEREAS**, in 2013 the Cocoa Village Post Office was renamed the Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore Post Office, and the Moore Family artifacts were transferred to the African American Smithsonian Museum to become part of the Harry & Harriette Moore exhibit in the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History & Culture in Washington, D.C., and, the Moores were inducted into the Florida Civil Rights Hall of Fame in Tallahassee, and

**WHEREAS**, in 2019 Visit Florida announced that five of the six new sites added to the U.S. Civil Right Trail by the U.S. Civil Rights Trail Marketing Alliance are Florida landmarks, and Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore Memorial Park & Museum is on the site, and

**WHEREAS**, in 2021 the Brevard County School Board reinstated the Moores, recognizing the unjust firing and posthumously declaring them "Brevard Public Schools Teachers Emeritus".

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BREVARD COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**, join in recognizing Harry Tyson and Harriette Vyda Simms Moore's contributions to Brevard County, State of Florida and the Nation as civil rights activists, martyrs and educators.

**DONE, ORDERED AND ADOPTED**, in regular session, this 23rd day of March 2021, A.D.