
Chatham County Human Relations Commission

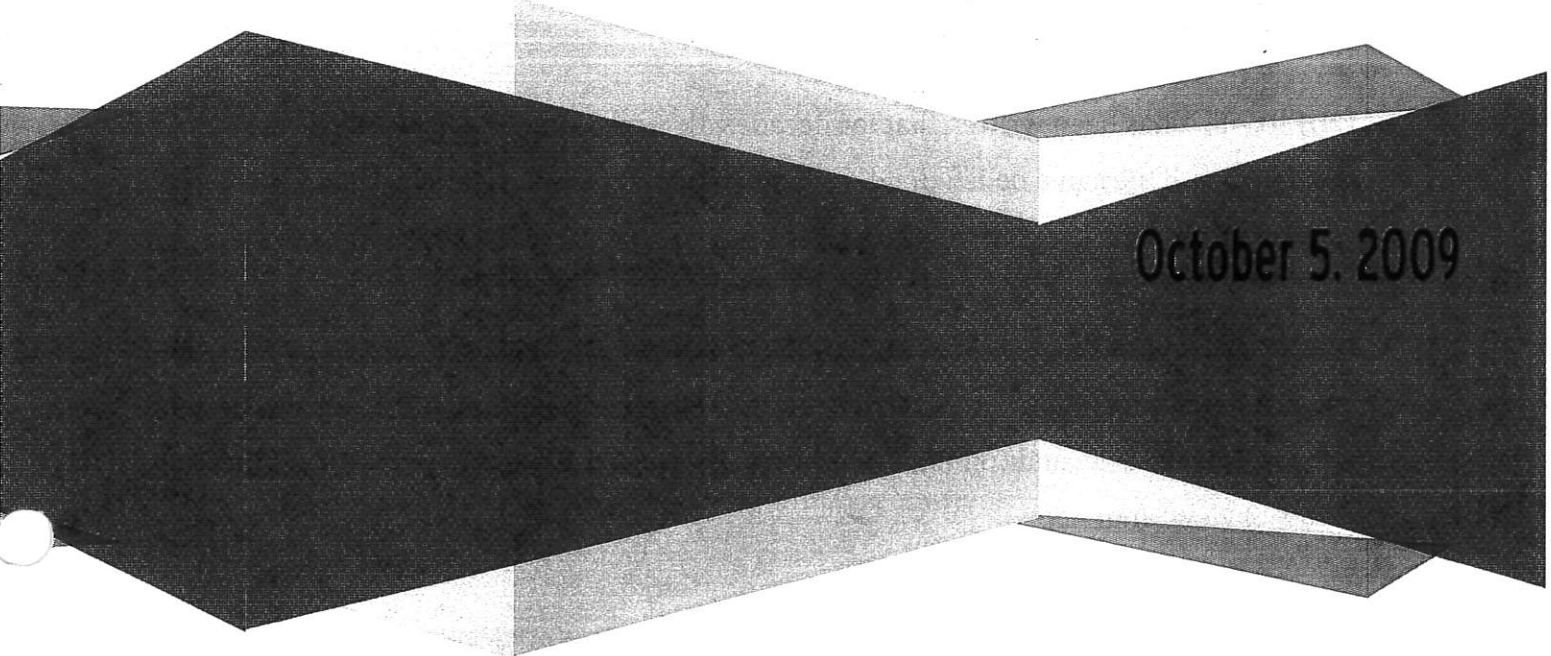
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Chatham County Board of Commissioners

Joint Resolution

In Honor of

Margie E. Ellison



October 5, 2009

**CHATHAM COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION RESOLUTION
IN HONOR OF CCHRC CHAIR MARGIE E. ELLISON**

WHEREAS, we the members of the Chatham County Human Relations Commission -- herein referred to as the CCHRC -- deeply mourn the loss of our friend and colleague, Commissioner Margie E. Ellison; and

WHEREAS, with the passing of Commissioner Ellison, we have lost one of our most effective champions for promoting amicable human relations and mutual respect among all groups within Chatham County and for discouraging all manner and manifestation of discriminatory practices; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Ellison gave voice and action to a vision where people in communities come together and work for the common good; and

WHEREAS, her shared, collegial vision gave rise to the founding of this Commission and the establishment of an Office of Human Relations in Chatham County; and

WHEREAS, she became chair of the CCHRC in 2008 and led the Commission in that capacity for nearly two years; and

WHEREAS, it has been written that for decades, Commissioner Ellison tackled each challenge with the same belief: that those who empower themselves can change the world; and

WHEREAS, it has also been written that Commissioner Ellison was a valiant leader of the people of Chatham County, irrespective of race, religion, or political affiliation and that she was a voice of reason and common sense who believed in dialog and respect for different points of view; and

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WHEREAS, it has also been written that Commissioner Ellison firmly believed in equality and equity and chose to speak for those who could not speak for themselves and that she worked tirelessly to build bridges between all of the diverse communities as with the African-American and Hispanic community gatherings; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Ellison devoted her time and talents to many other organizations and movements including the *Take Back Our Vote Initiative*, *Growing Healthy Communities*, adult and youth education projects, economic development, and green living; and

WHEREAS, the members of the CCHRC are determined that the life and works of this great leader shall remain a shining symbol of social justice and activism;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CCHRC and the Chatham County Board of Commissioners (BOC) have received with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the passing of CCHRC Chair Margie E. Ellison; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the CCHRC recommends to the BOC that February 2010 be proclaimed as Margie E. Ellison Human Relations Month in Chatham County.

Signed and sealed this 5th day of October, 2009,



Heather Rodin, Vice Chair, Human Relations Commission



George Lucier, Chair, Board of Commissioners