

Wilmington, Delaware  
June 6, 2019

**#4670**

**Sponsor:**

**Council  
President  
Shabazz**

**Co-Sponsors:**

**Council  
Members  
Harlee  
Turner**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Wilm. C. § 2-3 the mayor retains authority to sub-name by executive order any city street and designate the appropriate sub-name signage pursuant to subsection 2-298(17); and

**WHEREAS**, it is fitting that the City take steps to properly recognize and pay tribute to Wilmington residents who make a significant impact on history and culture through their exemplary accomplishments; and

**WHEREAS**, one Wilmingtonian worthy of such an honor is Mr. Marvin Thomas, a management analyst who recently retired after 30-years of public service for the Delaware State Government within the field of human services; and

**WHEREAS**, much of Mr. Thomas' career has been centered on helping those most vulnerable, particularly in Wilmington's inner-city communities. He graduated from Delaware State College with a degree in Sociology, and went on to receive a Master's Degree in Community Organization and Social Welfare Administration from the Bryn Mawr Graduate School of Social Work; and

**WHEREAS**, upon completing his degrees, Mr. Thomas went on to serve his community in many different ways. He helped spearhead the construction of the Henrietta Johnson Medical Center, a Federally Qualified Health Center located in Wilmington that provides healthcare services to all patients in need, regardless of whether they have health insurance; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Thomas went on to become the chairperson of the Neighborhood House Housing Committee during the Apple Square townhouse construction and initiated the

creation of the Eastside/Southbridge New Millennium Community Development Corporation. It should also be noted that Mr. Thomas was a member of the Prince Hall Masons in Delaware and was the first statewide director of the youth program; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to all of his other accomplishments and acts of service, Mr. Thomas also served on the Board of Directors Riverfront Development Corporation for over 10-years, served as President of the Southbridge Civic Association and numerous other community-based committees and organizations. Throughout his time serving his community at the state and local level, Mr. Thomas also owned and operated a retail business in Southbridge for over 30-years. He currently serves on the Board of the Neighborhood House Inc., and the Henrietta Johnson Medical Center building committee; and

**WHEREAS**, City Council wishes to recognize the exceptional accomplishments and contributions of Marvin Thomas. Mr. Thomas' efforts and leadership in the field of human services at the state and local level have inspired many and shown the importance and magnitude of serving one's community. Council therefore encourages the Mayor to sub-name a portion of the street in the area of New Castle Avenue and Lobdell Street as "Marvin Thomas Way."

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON**, that City Council respectfully encourages the Mayor to designate a portion of the street in the area of New Castle Avenue and Lobdell Street as "Marvin Thomas Way," in recognition of Mr. Thomas' significant contributions to the City of Wilmington. City Council looks forward to joining the Administration in celebrating this designation.

Passed by City Council,

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

**SYNOPSIS:** This Resolution encourages the Mayor to sub-name a portion of the street in the area of New Castle Avenue and Lodbell Street as “Marvin Thomas Way,” in recognition of the public servant’s significant contributions to the City of Wilmington.