

RESOLUTION

Item #

RE: Renaming of Paul Manafort Sr. Drive

To Her Honor, the Mayor, and the Common Council of the City of New Britain:
the undersigned beg leave to recommend the adoption of the following:

WHEREAS, Paul Manafort Sr. Drive is situated along Central Connecticut State University between East Street and Stanley Street; and

WHEREAS, Central Connecticut State University has created a Commemoration Committee to celebrate its most distinguished alumni, Ebenezer D.C. Bassett, class of 1853; an annual Bassett Day; and a humanitarian scholarship named after him; and

WHEREAS, Ebenezer D.C. Bassett was the first African American to attend and graduate from Connecticut Normal School, now Central Connecticut State University, going on to become a teacher and principal in Connecticut and elsewhere reflecting the goals and ideal of its alma matter; and

WHEREAS, Ebenezer D.C. Bassett was an activist in the Abolitionist movement and a friend of Frederic Douglass helping recruit blacks to serve in the Union Army during the Civil War, and then being nominated by President Ulysses Grant to be the first African American to serve as an ambassador and diplomat; and

WHEREAS, the name Paul Manafort has been mired in national scandal and guilty pleas; and

WHEREAS, the recent addition of the word "Sr" to the name still brings attention to the national scandal and brings embarrassment to the city; and

WHEREAS, Paul Manafort has no connection to the university, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Paul Manafort Sr Drive be renamed Ebenezer D.C. Bassett Way.

Ald. Aram Ayalon

Ald. Eva Magnuszewski

Ald. Carlo Carlozzi, Jr.

Ald. Richard Reyes

Ald. Emmanuel Sanchez

Ald. Iris Sanchez

Ald. Francisco Santiago