

**2019 RES-220**  
**CONGRATULATING 2019 MISS BLACK USA TEKEMA BALENTINE**

WHEREAS the Miss Black USA Organization is the first and oldest scholarship pageant for women of color, awarding over \$500,000 in scholarships with the mission to provide a national stage for its participants to showcase their unique talents and beauty and win scholarship opportunities; and

WHEREAS the Miss Black USA Organization empowers women to use their voice, own their power, and redefine what it means to be a compassionate, confident and beautiful Black woman today; and

WHEREAS Black women from across the United States competed for this title and were evaluated on their public speaking skills, personal fitness, talent, evening gown attire, and a question and answer session; and

WHEREAS Miss Black Wisconsin, TeKema Balentine, from Madison, Wisconsin won the 2019 Miss Black USA title; TeKema is a graduate of Madison East High School and is currently pursuing a nursing degree at Madison Area Technical College while coaching high school track and field and volunteering throughout the community; and

WHEREAS TeKema intends to use her voice to be a role model for the African-American community in Madison and to highlight successful African-American people in the area; TeKema aims to increase the number of African-American students in after-school and mentoring programs, factors she believes contributes to the achievement gap between white students and students of color.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Dane County Board of Supervisors hereby congratulates TeKema Balentine, 2019 Miss Black USA, on her victory; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be presented to TeKema in recognition of her public service and dedication to Black women throughout Wisconsin and the United States.

---

Sharon Corrigan  
Dane County Board Chair

Signed and sealed before me  
this 5<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2019

---

Scott McDonell  
Dane County Clerk