

ACT NO. 7658

BILL NO. 30-0415

THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

Regular Session

2014

An Act honoring and commending Milton M. "Milt" Newton for his formidable contributions to the Virgin Islands and renaming the Bordeaux Basketball Court in his honor

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WHEREAS, Milton Miles "Milt" Newton was born on August 25, 1965, on the island of St. Thomas, Virgin Islands and was raised in St. Thomas and Washington, DC and is the proud son of the late Cleopatra Newton; and

WHEREAS, Milton M. Newton is married to Shalaun and is the proud father of two children, Shaniya Adell and Miles Kenneth; and

WHEREAS, Milton M. Newton attended Leonard Dober Elementary School, Jane E. Tuitt Elementary School and Wayne N. Aspinall Junior High School; and

WHEREAS, Milton M. Newton is a six foot, four inch guard/forward in the sport of Basketball; and

WHEREAS, Milton M. Newton attended Calvin Coolidge High School in Washington DC and starred on the school's basketball team before playing NCAA Division I Men's Basketball; and

WHEREAS, Milton M. Newton received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education in 1989 and a Master's of Science Degree in Sports Administration in 1991 from the University of Kansas; and

WHEREAS, Milton M. Newton was recruited by renown college coach John Calipari and NBA Hall of Fame Coach Larry Brown to play basketball for the University of Kansas Jayhawks; and

WHEREAS, Milton M. Newton played for the University of Kansas Jayhawks from 1985 to 1989, becoming the starting forward for the 1988 National Championship team, and joined teammate and Final 4 Most Outstanding Player Danny Manning on the Midwest Regional and Final 4 All-Tournament Team; and

WHEREAS, Milton M. Newton scored fifteen points in the final game against Oklahoma making all six of his field goal attempts, including two, three-points attempts and made numerous plays that, while they did not show up in the box score, contributed mightily to the Jayhawks victory; and

WHEREAS, Milton M. Newton, as a senior during the 1988-89 College Basketball Season, was the Jayhawks' Captain on Hall of Fame Coach Roy William's first Kansas Basketball team, averaged 17.7 points and 5.1 rebounds per game, and was named to the 2nd Team All-Big Eight Conference; and

WHEREAS, Milton M. Newton was co-captain of the Virgin Islands entry in the 1987 Pan American Games; and

WHEREAS, after his college career ended, Milton M. Newton played basketball professionally in Australia with the NBL's South East Melbourne Magic and the Rockford Lightning and Grand Rapids Hoops of the Continental Basketball Association; and

WHEREAS, following his playing days, Milton M. Newton turned to the business side of basketball rising through the ranks with the Denver Nuggets, USA Basketball, Philadelphia 76ers, then joining the National Basketball Association League Office being instrumental in launching the NBA's Development League; and

WHEREAS, Milton M. Newton joined the Washington Wizards as their Director of Player Personnel in 2003 and was shortly promoted to Vice President, being instrumental in directing the scouting department for the organization and played a significant role in the draft and free agent acquisitions; and

WHEREAS, Milton M. Newton created and instituted the Washington Wizards' comprehensive scouting database and led their pre-draft efforts and NBA draft prospects workouts during his tenure with the Wizards; and

WHEREAS, Milton M. Newton is heavily involved in charitable efforts and assisted with the NBA's Basketball Without Borders global basketball and community outreach program in South Africa and Senegal; and

WHEREAS, in the summer of 2009, Milton M. Newton hosted four (4) "Giving Up The Love" basketball clinics in the Virgin Islands to teach fundamental skills to kids ages 8-18 in conjunction with the Virgin Islands Basketball Federation in which he is a consultant; and

WHEREAS, in August of 2013, Milton M. Newton interviewed with Flip Saunders, the Minnesota Timberwolves' minority owner and President of Basketball Operations, for the vacant General Manager job, and in September of 2013 he was hired as their General Manager; and

WHEREAS, Milton M. Newton will be tasked with implementing the vision of owner, Glen Taylor and President, Flip Saunders, overseeing the scouting department, draft preparation, contract negotiations and other personnel decisions; and

WHEREAS, Milton M. Newton joins a list of minority decision makers in the National Basketball Association along with Detroit's Joe Dumars, Brooklyn's Billy King, Toronto's Masai Ujiri, New Orleans' Dell Demps, Charlotte's Rod Higgins and Rich Cho, and Los Angeles Clippers' Doc Rivers; and

WHEREAS, Milton M. Newton joins Wayne Embry, the first African American General Manager in all professional sports, as an ambassador for African Americans all over the world; and

WHEREAS, Milton M. Newton has made the Virgin Islands and the island of St. Thomas proud of his career accomplishments, which have great historical significance not only for the Virgin Islands, but for the world; Now, Therefore,

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:

SECTION 1. The Legislature of the Virgin Islands, on behalf of the people of the Virgin Islands, honors and commends Milton M. Newton for his herculean achievements in the world of basketball and for bringing increased recognition for the contributions of the Virgin Islands in the field of basketball throughout the United States.

SECTION 2. In recognition of Milton M. Newton's work and contributions in the world of basketball, the Bordeaux Basketball Recreation Park located in Estate Bordeaux on the island of St. Thomas, is named "The Milton M. Newton Recreational Park".

SECTION 3. The sum of \$3,000 is appropriated, in the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, from the General Fund to the Department of Public Works for the erection of a sign naming the Bordeaux Basketball Court, "The Milton M. Newton Recreational Park."

SECTION 4. In recognition of Milton M. Newton's perseverance in the face of the many obstacles he faced and in recognition and appreciation of his contributions to the people of the Virgin Islands, the President or the President's designee shall have a perma plaque copy of this Act prepared and shall present it to Milton M. Newton at an appropriate ceremony.

Thus passed by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands on September 25, 2014.

Witness our Hands and Seal of the Legislature of the Virgin Islands this 3rd Day of September, A.D., 2014.



Shawn-Michael Malone
President

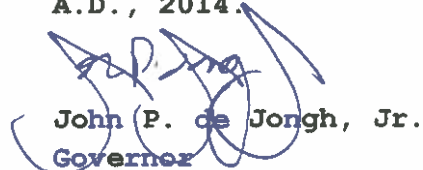


Janette Millin Young
Legislative Secretary



Bill No. 30-0415 is hereby approved.

Witness my hand and the Seal of the
Government of the United States
Virgin Islands at Charlotte Amalie,
St. Thomas, this 13th day of October
A.D., 2014.



John P. de Jongh, Jr.
Governor