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Misty Belford
2700 Judge Fran Jamieson Way
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Dear Ms. Belford,

Andrew Spar
President

Carole M. Gauronkas
Vice President

Nandi Riley
Secretary-Treasurer

It is with great reverence for the work accomplished by Harry T. and Harriette V. Moore and with resolve for the work that must still be done in the fight for racial equity and racial justice, that on behalf of the 150,000 members of the Florida Education Association, I urge the Brevard County School Board to adopt the proposed resolution to recognize the Moores' as Brevard Public Schools teachers emeritus.

Both Harry and Harriette Moore led a life that was dedicated to helping Black residents of Brevard County, and indeed all of Florida, overcome the obstacles placed in front of them by Jim Crow laws. This dedication was seen in many ways but perhaps none more so than the Moores' dedication to public education.

This dedication led Harry Moore to become a member of the Florida State Teachers Association (FSTA), which in 1966 would merge with the Florida Education Association (FEA) to form the first statewide integrated teachers union in Florida. Moore was well respected by his union colleagues in FSTA for his unyielding commitment to racial equity and in particular his fight to ensure that teachers of color received equal pay to white teachers. It is because of the great respect his peers had for him that Harry Moore rose to the ranks of president of Region 4 of the FSTA.

It is this fight for Black teachers that led to the Moores' murder. In 2004, Florida Attorney General Charlie Crist reopened an investigation into the bombing of the Moores' house. Among the conclusions reached by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and the Florida Attorney General's Office was "**the reason for the bombing appears to have been because of Moore's efforts in registering Black voters and his involvement in local politics, attempting to get equal pay for Black teachers.**"

While it is true that the symbolic act of reinstating both Harry and Harriette Moore as teachers emeritus in Brevard County cannot undo the terrible injustice they and their entire community suffered, it is also true that symbolic acts matter. As the *Titusville Star Advocate* wrote at the time of the bombing, “The reputation of Brevard County and the state are at stake in this matter”

We believe this resolution can be an important step to ensure the reputation of Brevard County as a place where acts of violence borne out of racial injustice will not be tolerated and, as a place where the fight for racial and economic justice continues to march on in the spirit of Harry and Harriette Moore.

Sincerely,

Three handwritten signatures are shown side-by-side. The first signature on the left is "Andrew Spar". The middle signature is "Carole Gauronskas". The third signature on the right is "Nandi Riley".

Andrew Spar
President

Carole Gauronskas
Vice President

Nandi Riley
Secretary/Treasurer