



NAACP

Riverside Branch NAACP
P.O. Box 55131
Riverside, California 92517
May 24, 2019

Mayor Rusty Bailey
3900 Main St,
Riverside, CA 92522

Dear Mayor Bailey:

On behalf of the Riverside Branch in NAACP, I am writing this letter requesting a street be name after our past president, Waudieur Rucker Hughes. The road that our organization has selected is Prospect Avenue that crosses Fifteenth Street near Riverside City College. The proposed name of the street is Woodie Rucker Hughes Street.

Woodie began her career teaching History at John W. North High School in Riverside, California from 1969-1975. She promoted to Dean of Students and served in that capacity from 1975 until 1979. In 1979. She served as Assistant Principal in the areas of discipline, attendance and guidance/counseling, which also included work in community involvement activities and governmental affairs. In August of 2003 Woodie became Assistant Principal at the Educational Options Center for the Riverside Unified School District. Woodie's last employment assignment before retirement was as the Child Welfare and Attendance Manager for the Riverside Unified School District's Pupil Services department. As the State Mandated District Homeless and Foster Liaison, she and her staff worked to serve the needs of students to prevent educational barriers. Before her passing Woodie was also the current President of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Riverside Branch; a member of Chief of Police, Sergio Diaz's "Citizen's Advisory Board"; and Amos Temple C.M.E. Church's Chancel Choir. She has also served on the Trustee Board of Amos Temple C.M.E. Church. In 2018, Woodie was appointed as the Inland Empire Representative to the SB 350 Disadvantaged Community Advisory Group by the California Public Utilities Commission.

Woodie has meritoriously served the Riverside community at large as a humanitarian and pillar. She was also appointed the California-Hawaii State NAACP Executive Committee, where she serves as its South-East Area Director. Woodie also served as the NAACP Region 1 Secretary, an elected position that she has held since 2010.

Woodie co-founded the Saturday Academy Weekend School, an educational enrichment program for college-bound students at the University of California, Riverside. She continued to volunteer at

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the Saturday Academy parent coordinator for more than fourteen years. Woodie's other humanitarian efforts included her participation in numerous organizations and groups. Including Leadership Riverside; The Group; C.A.N. (Community Alliance Network); Riverside Police Community Engagement Task Force; The Eastside Think Tank; Riverside Community Relations Commission; Riverside Human Resources Board; Delta Kappa Gamma; Phi Delta Kappa; League of Women Voters; Riverside Community College Forensics Board of Governors; and the Center for Educational Leadership and Management Performance. Woodie has served as Past President, Treasurer, and member of the Hunter Park Chamber of Commerce and as a former Division Representative to the Greater Chambers of Commerce Board. Woodie was the co-founder of Riverside African American Summit. She was on the governing board of Parkview Community Hospital, where she served as past chair of the Governing Board, and she represented the State Conference NAACP as a member of the Environmental Justice Advisory Board for the AQMD. She has also previously served as a National Science Foundation Fellow in Race Relations at Western Oregon University in Monmouth, Oregon

Woodie has been the recipient of numerous awards. She was awarded the Advocate for Justice Award by the Inland Empire Latino Lawyers' Association. Her many honors include the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Public Service Award; the 1997 through 2002 issues of "Who's Who of American Women"; the 1997 Martin Luther King, Jr. Visionaries Award; the Kansas Avenue Seventh Day Adventist Church and the Essie L. Bell & God Bless the Child Foundation outstanding contributions. The Art Pick Outstanding Leadership Riverside Alumni Award; the YWCA Woman of Achievement Award; two Community Awards for outstanding leadership from the California Association of Black Correctional Officers – Inland Empire Chapter; the 2007 Personal Achievement Award by the members of the Edgar J. Hayes Commanders of the Rite 33rd Degree Masons; and the Community Pathfinder award from the African American Historical Society. . In 2014, Woodie became a member of the Citizen's Advisory Board for the State of California Highway Patrol. In that capacity, she advised the H.W.P. Commissioner on matters affecting the Highway Patrol and the community. Lastly, on Mar 29, 2016, Woodie received the honor of becoming the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce Citizen of the Year.

Woodie served our city well. Now it is time to honor her. Therefore, we are asking the city of Riverside to name a street after our beloved Woodie; because she has spent her life as a leader, advocate and a champion for social justice.

Sincerely,



Sharron Lewis

Riverside Branch NAACP Vice President