



WHEREAS, Ja’Kobe Walter, born September 4, 2004, in Birmingham, Alabama, moved to McKinney, Texas, at an early age, and has since been a proud member of the community; and

WHEREAS, Ja’Kobe attended Reuben Johnson Elementary, Evans Middle School, and McKinney High School, where he excelled academically and athletically, earning numerous honors including District MVP, Freshman of the Year, All-State recognition, and leading his team to a historic state championship; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, he completed his high school experience at Link Academy after earning numerous national basketball honors, then attended Baylor University for one year, where he was named Big 12 Basketball Freshman of the Year and Baylor’s Overall Athlete of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Ja’Kobe Walter made history as the first student athlete from McKinney Independent School District to be selected in the 2024 NBA Draft, and the first in his family to become a professional athlete, when he was selected 19th overall by the Toronto Raptors; and

WHEREAS, a member of St. Mark Baptist Church in McKinney, Ja’Kobe remains committed to giving back through his free annual youth basketball camps and plans to expand efforts to include mental health awareness and community engagement.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BILL COX, BY THE POWER VESTED IN ME AS MAYOR OF MCKINNEY, TEXAS, DO HEREBY RECOGNIZE MAY 19, 2026 AS

JA’KOBЕ WALTER DAY

IN MCKINNEY, TEXAS, CONGRATULATING HIM ON NUMEROUS SUCCESSES AND EXTENDING BEST WISHES ON ALL HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL THIS 19th DAY OF MAY 2026.

SIGNED: _____
BILL COX, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
EMPRESS DRANE, City Secretary

City of McKinney, Collin County, Texas